Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 16 | WEDNESDAY JANUARY 20, 2010 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Ex-Legislative staff reportedly commits suicide at DOC. PAGE 4

SVES students inspire President Obama. PAGE 6

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Are you satisfied with Gov. Benigno Fitial's explanation relating to the temporary release of a federal detainee?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

King's Legacy

A scholar and activist invoked the fiery side of Martin Luther King Jr.'s rhetoric Monday at the civil rights icon's church, urging the audience not to "sanitize" King's legacy or let the president off the hook on issues like poverty.

Nation...Page 15

Chin Up

Jay Leno turned serious on his show to discuss the late-night chaos at NBC, telling viewers that he'd been doubtful about launching a prime-time show but was prevented by NBC from going to another network instead.

Life & Style...Page 20

Saipan power generation INCREASES TWO-FOLD

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

From a mere 26 megawatts in January 2009, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power generation on Saipan has more than doubled to 58MW as of December 2009, according to its assistant executive director Abe Utu Malae.

See SAIPAN on Page 4

Malae

OPA: No plan to look into 'massage' controversy

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor has not received any requests to investigate Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Corrections Commissioner Dolores M. Aldan for the temporary release of a federal detainee on a human smuggling case, to be able to give the governor a massage at his house in Gualo Rai in the early morning of Jan. 8.

Public Auditor Michael Pai, in responding to a *Saipan Tribune* inquiry, said he leaves the issue up to the Office of the Attorney General and the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

"OPA has not received any requests on this matter. Since this matter is already being worked

See OPA on Page 4

EXCESS SAND HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Ray Lisua, an employee at the Department of Public Works, operates a payloader to scoop and dump tons of sand into a waiting truck at the Sugar Dock Beach in Chalan Kanoa yesterday afternoon. The sand was to be brought to the DPW compound in Lower Base.

Fitial masseuse employed at legitimate spa in Garapan

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Qingmei Cheng, the controversial 28-year-old masseuse of Gov. Benigno Fitial, was employed at a legitimate spa in Garapan at the time U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents arrested her and a man for allegedly trying to smuggle 22 aliens to Guam.

Saipan Tribune learned that Cheng was a masseuse at Healing Stone Spa—also called Yu Yu Spa—which is located on the ground floor of Holiday Saipan Resort.

Healing Stone Spa opened for business in August 2009,

See FITIAL on Page 4

Justices order Wiseman to declare whether Rebuenog is qualified or not

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court yesterday ordered the Superior Court to declare whether Ramona Taisakan Rebuenog is a qualified mayoral candidate for the Northern Islands.

The justices said given the interests of the parties and Northern Island residents in reaching a quick resolution of the election contest, they give the Superior Court no later than Friday, Jan. 22, to issue its determination.

"Because we issue this order for the limited purpose of having the trial court determine

See JUSTICES on Page 4

TONIGHT

American Red Cross

The American Red Cross in association with the NMI Council for the Humanities
Presents a lecture by

MR. JEAN-LUC METZKER

Head of the Regional Delegation-Suva, Fiji
International Committee of the Red Cross(ICRC)

Date: Wednesday, January 20, 2010
Place: American Memorial Park Visitor Center
Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm
Admission: Free

Mr. Metzker will provide a 90 minute presentation on the ICRC and its role in International Humanitarian Law and The Geneva Conventions.
For more information please contact the American Red Cross office at 234-3459 or the NMI Council for the Humanities at 235-4785

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance.

The ICRC also endeavors to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles.

Established in 1863, the ICRC is at the origin of the Geneva Conventions and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It directs and coordinates the international activities conducted by the Movement in armed conflicts and other situations of violence.

Together for humanity

Local

Hundreds of alien workers troop to Labor anew for 'umbrella permits'

Hundreds of alien workers yesterday trooped again to the Department of Labor, some even came as early as 4am, just to get their permanent "umbrella permits."

When Labor opened for business at 8am, hundreds of alien workers were already on a long line outside the Afetna Building.

A babysitter was seen on a long line near the main entrance of the building at 12:15pm. She said she arrived at 8am. Last Friday the babysitter also went to Labor at 8am, but left two hours later after a Labor staff informed them they could not accommodate all of them.

"It's hard to fall in long line because it's hot and sometimes it's raining," the babysitter said.

A hotel employee said he came at 8am, but Labor was very slow. At 12:30pm, he was still very far from the main entrance of the building. He said he could not do anything, but used his day off just to get the "umbrella permit."

Labor's office is located on the second floor of Afetnas Building. Labor would accommodate only about 50 workers at a time on the second floor.

Bruno Alvarez, manager of Lucky Catering and Bakery, was seen along the long line of workers pushing a cart loaded with sodas, breads, and other foods.

"If there is a long line, we have good sales," Alvarez said. He said the workers mostly buy softdrinks and snacks.

On Friday, hundreds of alien workers, who were given temporary "umbrella permits" before and asked to come back to pick up the permanent ones, began to form a line at Labor.

Labor Deputy Secretary Cinta Kaipat told *Saipan Tribune* on Friday that they are doing their best to accommodate everybody.

"There's a lot of people. People have to understand that we are doing the best we can," Kaipat said.

Kaipat asked workers not to panic.

Long lines were observed when Labor issued "umbrella permits" from Oct. 26 to Nov. 27, 2009.

H1N1 VACCINE SCHOOL VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

DPH WILL BE BACK AT THE SCHOOLS TO ADMINISTER THE 2ND DOSE OF THE H1N1 VACCINE TO STUDENTS 9 YEARS OLD AND YOUNGER

Students and school staff who want to receive their H1N1 vaccine for the first time can also get in line!
Consent forms are available at the school office. Turn in signed consent forms back to school before your vaccination date!

SCHOOL VACCINATION SCHEDULE

January 20th – Wednesday
Dandan Head Start
San Antonio Head Start
WSR Head Start

January 21st – Thursday
Kagman Head Start
Oleai Head Start

January 22nd – Friday
Garapan Head Start
Tanapag Head Start

January 27th – Wednesday
Kagman Elementary School
Garapan Elementary School

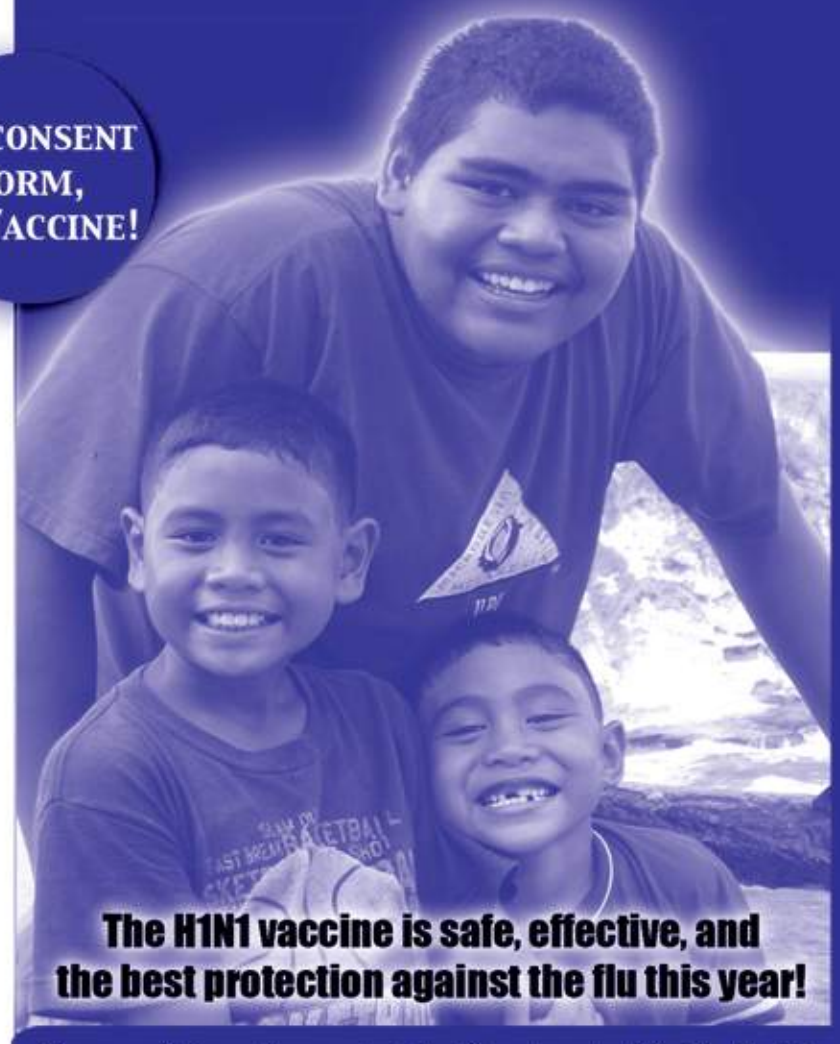
January 28th – Thursday
Dandan Elementary School
Oleai Elementary School
San Vicente Elementary School

January 29th – Friday
Koblerville Elementary School
San Antonio Elementary School
WSR Elementary School

Rota, Tinian, and Private School Schedules are being finalized

Visit any health clinic to get vaccinated.

NO CONSENT FORM, NO VACCINE!



The H1N1 vaccine is safe, effective, and the best protection against the flu this year!

For more information, contact the Department of Public Health at 234-8950 or email fluwatchcnmi@gmail.com.

CDC

Assessment study for NMC Rota, Tinian instructional sites in the offing

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The chairwoman of the Northern Marianas College board of regents, Janet Han King, disclosed yesterday that a systematic assessment study will be conducted at the Tinian and Rota instructional sites to determine if there's a real need to re-offer the academic programs in both campuses.

King

King said the board supports the decision of NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez when she terminated the academic programs in both sites with the approval and support of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

"Under the leadership of Dr. Fernandez, and by the tremendous support of the employees of NMC, we gained accreditation with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. It is therefore our primary goal to maintain accreditation with ACCJC," King said.

She reiterates that the regents embraces the mission of NMC which is to provide the best quality and meaningful post secondary and adult educational opportunities for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the individual and for the Commonwealth as a whole.

Admittedly, she said the issue of the Tinian and Rota campuses were left on the wayside after the suspension of academic degrees and certificate degree programs beginning Spring 2008.

But under the new board, King said they will clarify the issue publicly, something that was not done before.

The ACCJC, King said, responded that this suspension was in compliance with accreditation standards.

"We are all aiming for institutional effectiveness in order to maintain accreditation. Tinian and Rota require a systematic needs assessment study, and also we must ensure that financial resources for the two campuses are sufficient to support student learning programs and services," she said.

King said because the accreditation standards inform the board that the institution relies upon its mission and goals as the foundation for financial planning, at the governing level they will look into establishing policies that pay particular attention to Tinian and Rota's needs, once they are assessed.

Based on the accreditation standards, financial resources must be sufficient to support student learning and programs and services to improve institutional effectiveness.

After the suspension of academic programs in both sites, students taking degree courses were encouraged to transfer to the main campus on Saipan while some federal programs are still offered at Tinian and Rota campuses.

JEWELRY AUCTION
Seized Assets from Police Departments, IRS, U.S. Treasury & Narcotic Dealers
And others in violation of laws. Items bought from seized assets auctions will go up for bid with other merchandise which includes the majority of items.
HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
Certified solitaire diamonds from 1 to 7 carats. Many diamond stud earrings. A huge selection of TANZANITE jewelry from 1- to 13 carats. Rolex watches. Large selection of topaz, aquamarine, tourmaline & opal jewelry. 51 carat diamond & ruby necklace. Swiss made gold watches. ESTATE jewelry, Bracelets, bandfles, earrings, necklaces, rings, etc...
HUNDREDS OF PIECES TO CHOOSE FROM
ONE DAY ONLY!
100's of ITEMS
FREE ADMISSION
Saipan World Resort, Beach Road, Susupe
234-5900
TERMS: Cash, Check, Visa, Mastercard, AMEX. Auction not affiliated with any government agency or entity. 15% buyers premium plus sales tax will be added to hammer price. All items subject to error, omissions and withdrawal.
TOTAL VALUE: $2 Million
Roberto Galleries ~ State of Washington Auctioneer License #2506
Sunday, January 31st
Auction: 12 Noon • Preview: 11am

USSP Club
USSP-NEW YR. DART SHOOT OUT
FREE Entry
Every Wednesday Night
Starting Jan 20th, @ 7:30pm
Winners of each night to compete for CASH & other prizes on Feb. 18, 2010

KEVIN'S VIDEO II
special
Rent (5) five DVD's
Get (2) two DVD's free rental
GOOD UNTIL OFFER LAST.

Tis the Season to get new Eyeglasses:
Only $7700
at Marianas Eye Institute
Just $77.00 for a complete pair of glasses:
- Lens & Frames included
- One-year warranty
- Selected Brands
- Lightweight lenses
- $127.00 for Progressive "no-line" bifocals
Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome
235-9090
Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com
Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"

GSM POSTPAID
CLEARANCE SALE
MOTOROLA Z6
• 2 Megapixel Camera
• Video Recording
• Bluetooth
• MP3/ACC/AAC+ Players
• Micro SD Card Slot
NEW ACTIVATION
$49.00*
Reg Price: $389.00
SOLD OUT
MOTOROLA V191
• Speakerphone
• Up to 500 Phonebook entries
• Up to 500 Hours Battery Stand-By
NEW ACTIVATION
$49.00*
Reg Price: $119.00
NOKIA 6131
• Camera
• Video Recording
• Bluetooth
• MP3 player
• Micro SD Card Slot
NEW ACTIVATION
$99.00*
Reg Price: $139.00
SOLD OUT
NOKIA 6111
• 1 Megapixel Camera
• Video Recording
• Bluetooth
• FM radio; Visual radio
NEW ACTIVATION
$129.00*
Reg Price: $219.00
NOKIA E61
• Wi-Fi
• Bluetooth
• Document viewer (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, PDF)
• MP3 Players
• Micro SD Card Slott
NEW ACTIVATION
$299.00*
Reg Price: $519.00
*New Activations Only with 12-month agreement required. Valid during January 13th - January 30th or while supplies last. Other conditions to apply.
NTT docomo DOCOMO PACIFIC
483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • Mita Travel, Garapan

Air Saipan changes name to Saipan Airways

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The officials and members of the board of directors of Air Saipan have voted to change its trading name to stop the airline's association to the previous firm that failed to fulfill its initial commitment to fly to the Commonwealth in 2006.

From Air Saipan, the company has officially renamed itself to Saipan Airways, according to William Chen, chairman of Saipan Investments (BVI) LLC.

"Following board meetings it was decided to change the trading name of the start up airline to Saipan Airways. While the holding company remains the same, we want to finally put to rest any relationship with the previous airline failure," Chen confirmed to *Saipan Tribune*.

In the same board meeting, he said the company has also appointed Roger Stannell, an aviation expert who will take care of the initial start up and the long-term operations of the new airline.

The new COO, he said, will also be taking on the role of the chief operating officer for the immediate future. The official is a former cargo manager for Malaysian Airlines for United Kingdom and Ireland, former commercial manager for Jet Airways in Boston, a former regional manager for Europe for MNG Airlines and had also worked with British Airways, Zambia Airlines, and Ethiopian Airlines.

"We are pleased to appoint an experienced mature aviation expert, to take care of initial start up and the long term operations of the new airline," he said, adding that the new COO is currently helping the company to shortlist the right plane for the job in Saipan.

Saipan Tribune learned that the new COO is in the process of getting in touch with immigration and Commonwealth Ports Authority to secure the aircraft with a directive to have the aircraft secured by end of this month.

"We have the aircraft selection down to a shortlist, have 10 times the capital of the initial Air Saipan, and the experience of some of the world's best aviation consultants based in Germany, the U.K., and the USA," Chen said.

Once the aircraft are secured, he said, Saipan Airways will be coming to Saipan. Chen disclosed that initially the company will be flying two charter routes to China with one aircraft. An expansion will come later in 2010.

Chen earlier disclosed that the business is a "new venture, new capital and new team" that will focus on providing a link between China and Saipan.

He cited among the proof of its commitment to pursue business on Saipan is the memorandum of agreement the company signed with LH Consultancy.

Initial capital for Saipan Airways amounts to $20 million, according to Chen. The group is expected to be on island later this month or early February to formally launch the new airline.

Search operation fails to locate man

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Firefighters and police officers conducted over the weekend a search operation but failed to locate a man who was reported missing since Friday.

Mendiola

Department of Public Safety spokesman Eric F. David said reported missing is Edward P. Mendiola.

David said police officers responded to the Mendiola residence in Dandan after receiving a call about a missing person.

Preliminary investigation showed that Mendiola was last seen wearing a light colored T-shirt and blue jeans on Thursday at 10:30pm.

The next day, Friday, family members went to the victim's house to drop off food and groceries. They noticed, however, that he was not there.

Family members noticed that the victim's fishing gear was missing.

"Because of that, family members believe that the victim may have gone fishing at a nearby site where he normally hold fishing, but after several hours of not showing up, the victim was then reported missing," David said.

Members of the Fire and Police Search and Rescue teams were activated and conducted a search in the vicinity and fishing area that Mendila would frequently visit.

The rescuers failed to locate the victim. Due to rough seas and weather conditions on Saturday, the search was called off.

As no signs of Mendiola's whereabouts, the case was was classified as a missing person and forwarded to the DPS Criminal Investigation.

Ex-Legislative staff reportedly commits suicide at DOC

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A former staff at the Legislature reportedly committed suicide in his cell at the Department of Corrections in Susupe shortly after his bail hearing for domestic violence case yesterday morning.

Saipan Tribune learned that Walter David Deleon Guerrero was brought in the afternoon to the Commonwealth Health Center where he was pronounced dead.

Deleon Guerrero, 40, was said to be found hanging in his cell, but no other details were available yet.

DOC Commissioner Dolores Aldan confirmed to *Saipan Tribune* about Deleon Guerrero's death, but stated they cannot release information because police took over the investigation as a criminal case.

Deleon Guerrero was arrested over the weekend for domestic violence. He was taken at 11am yesterday for initial appearance hearing before Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo.

Govendo imposed a $10,000 cash bail for the defendant's temporary liberty. The judge ordered him to stay away from his common-law-wife and their two children.

Court records show that the defendant had previous criminal cases for assault and battery in 1989, 1999, and 2003.

Deleon Guerrero worked as a community service worker for a representative. His contract was not renewed last month, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Commissioner Aldan said they conducted initial investigation then handed the case over to the Department of Public Safety.

"I want to make sure that we are accurate on it (details)," Aldan said.

SAIPAN

From Page 1

The figure represents an increase of 123 percent and Malae said the improved power generation on the island is just one of the many accomplishments CUC achieved the last calendar year.

He said Saipan has a total of 21 engine units in three power plants and five of them are in need of major overhaul or replacement of spare parts.

Malae also noted that in calendar year 2009, CUC also successfully reduced feeder outage duration by 80 percent, from 60 to 90 minutes to under three minutes per trip.

He said this was accomplished by re-energizing whole feeders within minutes of an auto-trip.

"This revised re-energizing procedure is because 80 to 90 percent of overhead distribution faults are transient in nature," Malae explained to *Saipan Tribune*.

Since 2008, CUC has been in emergency declaration initially as a result of the poor condition of power facilities that brought long hours of power interruptions. It was also the reason why the government commissioned Aggreko generators at a cost of $6 million.

Besides improvements in power generation capacity, Malae said the percentage of water customers with 24/7 service also increased from 60 percent to 70 percent.

It was earlier reported that among the areas with poor water service were Navy Hill, Agkag, Garapan, and some portions of Capitol Hill.

In 12 months, Malae said CUC has successfully replaced the leaky pipes and water main lines in problem sites.

Malae also reported that water system disinfection also improved from monthly bacteriological violations to just one in the past 14 months.

Additionally, CUC reduced water surcharging or overflows by 60 percent during the calendar year 2009.

Despite these developments, Malae admitted that funding has remained a concern for CUC. He said an estimated three years is also needed for the agency to address all its operational problems.

OPA

From Page 1

on by the Attorney General's Office and the Federal District Court, OPA is not planning on working on it at this time," Pai told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Among other things, OPA has the responsibility to audit the receipt, possession, and disbursement of public funds, and to initiate, receive, investigate and issue opinions on complaints of violations of the Government Ethics Code Act of 1992.

Local residents interviewed yesterday said they are disappointed with the governor's instructions to have an inmate released temporarily to provide him massage. But they didn't want to have their names printed in the paper because of family members working for the government.

"It's not right, what the governor did. But I don't want my name in the paper because I have a relative working at the Legislature," one male resident said yesterday afternoon.

An online petition calling for the governor's removal from office for "abuse of power" has gathered 23 signatures as of 5:30pm yesterday. The online petition was initiated by former Saipan resident Rick Vaughn.

Others are still asking why the governor chose to have a masseuse temporarily released from jail to give him massage therapy for his severe back pain, rather than hire somebody else who's not in prison.

Fitial, in a statement on Thursday, said Qingmei Cheng, 28, was one of his best massage therapsists. He said the masseuse was paid through the company she worked for. The masseuse worked for Yuyu Spa or Healing Stone in Garapan.

The Department of Labor has yet to respond to inquiries whether a nonresident worker can still work and get paid even when he or she is in jail. The Marianas Visitors Authority has also yet to respond to media inquiry whether the image created by the news of Fitial's request to have an inmate released for a massage concerns the tourism agency. The news has been carried out by international media.

Lawmakers are taking a wait-and-see approach involving Fitial's request to temporarily release the 28-year-old masseuse and the corrections commissioner who allowed the release. For example, House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) said he leaves it up to the federal government to look into the issue.

FITIAL

From Page 1

the manager said yesterday in a phone interview.

The manager confirmed that Cheng was their employee, but that she was not there anymore. She refused to comment further.

Cheng listed Yu Yu Spa as her employer in documents filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI. She claimed earning $600 salary per month.

When *Saipan Tribune* checked Saipan Stone yesterday afternoon, there were at least two customers—both female Japanese tourists. Their facilities looked clean and nice. The masseuses also wore decent uniforms.

The place is said to be also frequented by many local male and female customers.

A masseuse there said she does not know Qingmei Cheng because they are using first names or other names at the establishment.

Cheng was among 22 Chinese nationals arrested recently by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents for allegedly trying to unlawfully enter Guam through a boat.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson last week granted the U.S. government's motion to conduct a hearing pertaining to the alleged unauthorized release of Cheng from the Department of Corrections upon Fitial's instruction.

Cheng and Jian Li, 31, were indicted with 22 counts of attempting to bring aliens to the U.S.

According to assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley, despite no federal authorization DOC officials took out Cheng from DOC last Jan. 8 and brought to Fitial's residence where she provided massage treatment to the governor.

O'Malley said upon information and belief, prior to her arrest, Cheng was Fitial's regular massage therapist.

JUSTICES

From Page 1

whether Rebuenog is a qualified mayoral candidate, this Court retains jurisdiction to consider this matter on appeal, and to determine the remaining issues pending on appeal in this case," the justices said.

The Supreme Court ruling was signed by Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan, associate justice John A. Manglona, and justice pro tem Edward Manibusan.

Last Dec. 30, Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman declared Rebuenog of the Covenant Party as mayor of the Northern Islands.

Wiseman determined that Rebuenog had the largest number of legal votes in the Nov. 7, 2009 election over independent candidate Tobias Dela Cruz Aldan after finding 18 of the 21 questioned voters were not qualified to vote in the Northern Islands mayoral election.

The judge ruled that as a result of the election contest, Rebuenog defeated Aldan by two votes, 64-62.

After the election, Aldan received 68 votes, while Rebuenog, got 67 votes. During the recounting, the Commonwealth Election Commission determined the same result and certified that Aldan indeed won the race.

Last Nov. 12, Rebuenog, through counsel Richard W. Pierce, sued CEC and Aldan. Rebuenog asked the court to declare her as the elected mayor of the Northern Islands because she had the largest number of legal votes cast in the election. She requested the court to void any certification of election issued to Aldan.

Rebuenog, through counsel Robert Torres, appealed. The hearing was held yesterday.

At trial, Aldan argued that Rebuenog was not a qualified mayoral candidate. Wiseman ruled that Aldan did not properly raise this issue, and therefore that under NMI Election Law it did not need to be answered by the court.

The Supreme Court ruled that when deciding the election contest the trial court was required to determine whether Rebuenog was a qualified mayoral candidate.

"This collateral issue—whether Rebuenog was a qualified mayoral candidate—must be answered before this Court can determine whether the trial court followed proper procedures in declaring Rebuenog the election winner," the justices said.

The justices said adopting the trial court's position in this case might not only lead to slower resolution of election disputes, but could also lead to absurd results.

BIG: Some 100 Chinese needed to build 1st phase of Tinian casino

But workers can't be brought in until DHS issues rules

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Bridge Investment Group LLC said yesterday that TinYuan Construction Group needs some 100 workers from China for the first phase of Bridge Investment's $40 million to $50 million casino and condominiums project on Tinian, but these foreigners couldn't be brought in until the U.S. Department of Homeland Security issues its final rules.

Phillip Mendiola-Long, executive vice president of Bridge Investment Group-CNMI operations, said it has completed its staff housing area and received full master site permits for the construction of the casino condominium resort.

"Therefore, only the construction of our resort is pending. To which is why TianYuan Construction has been waiting clarification from DHS on how to bring in their construction workers for the first phase of the construction of the resort," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Mendiola-Long, who is also the president of the revived Tinian Chamber of Commerce, said "approximately 100 workers from China" are needed for the first phase of the casino-resort's construction.

TinYuan Construction has also been waiting for a notice to proceed from Bridge Investment for almost a year; thus the construction firm has started selling its assets.

Bridge Investment is one of three groups of investors planning to build casino-resorts on Tinian, which has so far seen only one casino in operation since 1998—the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

The other two investor groups are the Marianas Resort Development Corp., which plans to build Matua Bay Resort, and Neo Gold Wings Paradise Saipan Corp.

"We (Bridge Investment Group) are in a very sensitive situation with TianYuan Construction as we have had a standing construction contract with their firm prior to federalization. However, now that federalization is in place, it seems as if TianYuan will be unable to carry out the contract (H2 visas are not issued to Chinese nationals) which presents a whole host of new challenges for Bridge Investment Group," he said.

Both TianYuan Construction and Bridge Investment Group hope that the new CW1 regulations will incorporate comments made by Bridge Investment to potentially solve the problem.

"If that occurs, one of the barriers to the beginning of our construction would be removed and the people of the CNMI can finally realize the benefits of its second casino resort," he added.

Mendiola-Long submitted many written comments to DHS' U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services on the interim final rule on the transitional worker program.

He said he also worked with the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Commercial Service-District Export Councils "to support continued access to the Chinese and Russian markets for both tourism and investment."

"We believe that the 'transitional period' created by Public Law 110-229 is an opportunity to 'test' this continued access to China and Russia and the parole system offered by (Homeland Security) Secretary (Janet) Napolitano is a great first step in that direction," Mendiola-Long said.

Bridge Investment is now waiting for DHS's regulations regarding new worker access under the CW-1 program, "which includes workers from China, as well as new investor rules which would set up an EB5 Regional Center with lowered thresholds than what is required on the U.S. mainland which allows investment from both China and Russian investors," he added.

Mendiola-Long said all these exceptions or differences between what is allowed in the CNMI versus what is allowed on the U.S. mainland can be accomplished during the "transitional phase" of the federalization of the CNMI's immigration system.

The federal government took control of CNMI immigration on Nov. 28, 2009 pursuant to P.L. 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act.

"We sincerely hope that USCIS and DHS use every opportunity to maintain current investment and encourage new investment in the CNMI. Without their advocacy and concern for our economy, the CNMI will be faced with a bleak economic future the likes of which hasn't ever been seen before," Mendiola-Long added.

Bridge Investment is to build a casino resort on 75,000 square meters—and not "square feet" as earlier reported—on a privately leased land.

The firm also leased another 10,000 square meters or private land for the staff housing construction.

Bridge Investment secured a license to operate a casino on Tinian in 2005. It earlier planned to build a $200 million project on Tinian, but scaled it down to $40 million-$50 million in early 2008. Its project, called Tinian Oceanview Resort and Casino, would have had 396 total rooms-268 declared condominium units and 128 hotel rooms-and 30,000 square feet of casino/banquet area. It projected to create 936 new jobs on Tinian.

USSP Club
USSP-THIRSTY NITES POOL COMPETITION
FREE Entry
Every Thurs & Sun. Nights
Starting Jan. 21st, @ 7:30pm
Winner of each night to compete for CASH & other prizes on Feb.14, 2010

2 convenient locations to better serve you!

Beach Road Clinic
next to Megabyte, Beach Road, Garapan
235-2030

Kagman Clinic
Kagman III, next to Kagman Postal and Kevin's Video
256-2020
HARDT EYE CLINIC
DAVID HARDT, O.D. | DON HARDT, O.D.
Using advanced technology combined with old-fashioned caring to provide unhurried and understandable exams.
Insurance plans and all major credit cards are gladly accepted

only $20* monthly
1000 MINUTES
FREE!
600 ANYTIME MINUTES
400 PTT MINUTES
UNLIMITED LOCAL TEXT
Motorola i425

Lightest PTT Phone
Voice Dialing
Color Display
USB
View the TV spot at www.youtube.com/iconnectguam.
Become a friend/fan of iConnect at www.facebook.com/iconnectguam.
Guam - Saipan Office 888.8888
*Some conditions apply. Local text and calls only.
iCONNECT
www.iconnectsaipan.com

SVES students inspire President Obama

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. President Barrack Obama expressed his deep appreciation to efforts demonstrated by students of San Vicente Elementary School when they sent personal notes to the nation's chief executive during his inauguration last year.

It was in January 2009 when San Vicente student council presidents Vanessa Gramlich and William Davis wrote the U.S. president, cordially inviting Oabama to pay a visit to their school and experience spending lunch with students of San Vicente.

The students promised the president a memorable visit to the island as they would prepare island dance performances and unique activities that reflect the cultural identity of the local people of the Commonwealth.

"So far, federal officials have only stopped over Guam on their way somewhere. It would be a great demonstration of your pledge to be president to all of us—Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the CNMI—if sometime, you can physically and officially visit any of us," the local students told the president in their letter, adding that it would be a great honor if Obama will keep them on top of his list.

The San Vicente students also admitted that they are tired of getting mail sent to Spain, Mauritius, or Taiwan since it rhymes with Saipan or unable to trade in the Internet because there is no designation for them in the USA category unless they log in on the foreign country column.

Obama's visit, they believe, could get them into the global map in an instant.

Also, to make it easy for the U.S. President to visit the islands, the local students had offered to seek the assistance of NMI Congressman Gregorio Kilili Sablan "to help your Air Force One pilot locate us in the Western Pacific."

They also likened the President's vision of transparency and openness in government to a former local lawmaker, Rep. Tina Sablan—a strong advocate of the same vision.

"Your example has been an inspiration for us to focus on our possibilities even as we remain clear and keep an eye on our limits. And in your and our new America, you have shown that the sky is the limit," the students said.

Obama's reply

In his message to the local students, President Obama expressed appreciation the letter sent to his office.

He said the thoughtful words from the CNMI students join a chorus of millions of Americans who are eager to lead the nation towards a brighter tomorrow.

"Each day, I am inspired by the encouraging messages of hope and determination I have received from students across the country…" he wrote in his letter to the students.

Obama said that America needs young people like the CNMI students who are studying hard in school, serving their community, and dreaming big dreams.

"Our country faces great challenges…but we will overcome them if we work together," he said, adding that America's future will be determined by their willingness to shoulder each other's burdens, take great risks, and move forward as one people and one nation.

"With your help, we will build on what we have already achieved and lay a new foundation for real and lasting progress," Obama wrote.

AG: No investigation on NMC president has commenced at this time

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General yesterday clarified that it has not commenced any investigation on Northern Marianas College president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, who was suspended by the NMC Board of Regents on Jan. 12 apparently amid two separate probes on her on issues described as "very sensitive" in nature.

"While it is true that the (OAG) has engaged in preliminary discussions concerning NMC and President Fernandez, no (OAG) investigation has commenced at this time," a statement from the office of Attorney General Edward Buckingham said.

As a routine matter, the OAG conducts investigations into various matters, both civil and criminal.

Also as a routine, the OAG does not comment, confirm or deny the existence of an investigation.

But an OAG statement released by newly appointed Press Secretary Angel Demapan yesterday, the OAG said "sometimes an exception to this general practice is appropriate."

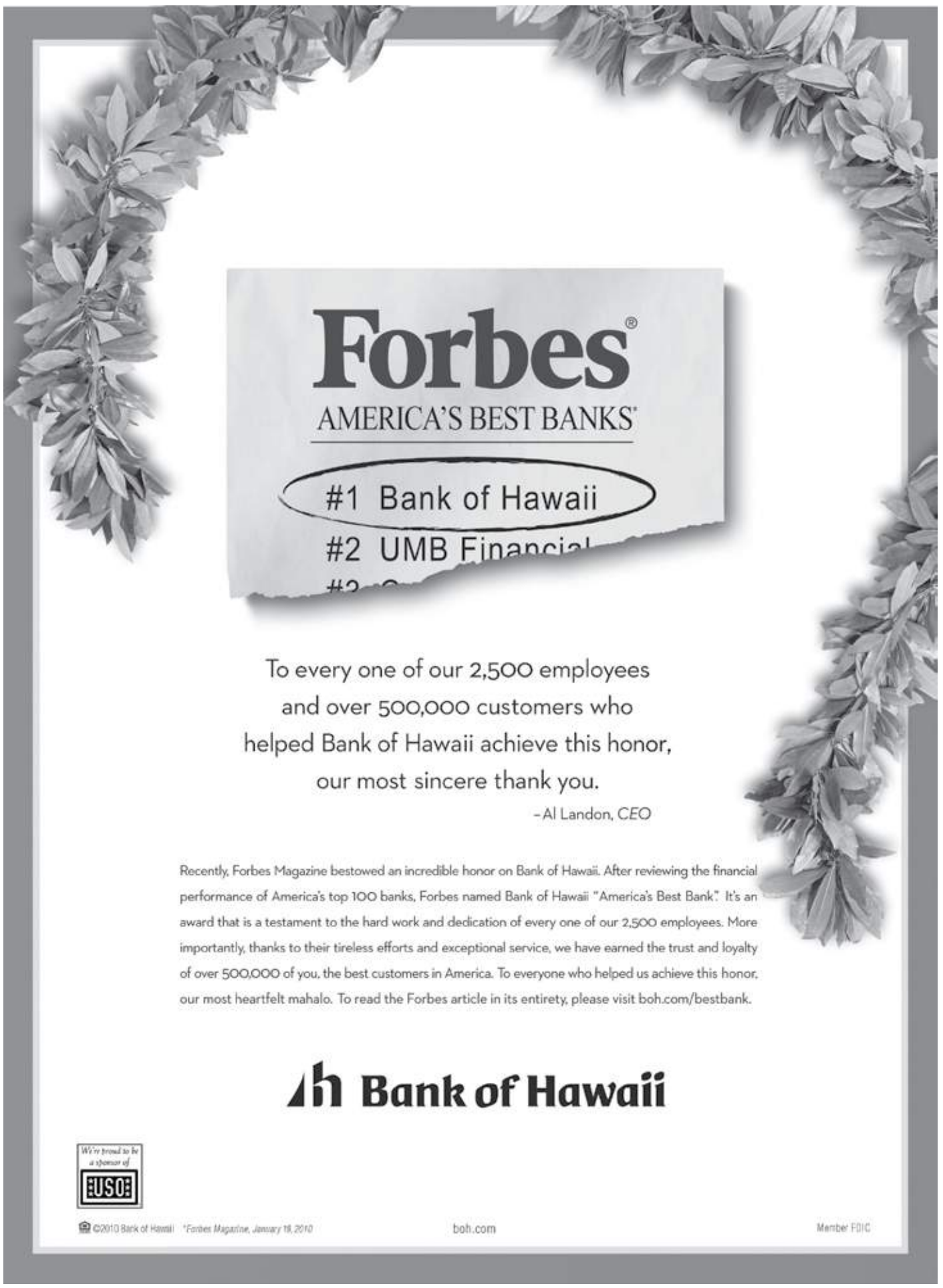
"Accordingly, the (OAG) wishes to provide the following information: Certain recent public statements concerning the suspension of Northern Marianas College president Carmen Fernandez may suggest that the (OAG) has started (to) investigate the president. While it is true that the AGO has engaged in preliminary discussions concerning NMC and President Fernandez, no AGO investigation has commenced at this time," the statement reads.

During a Board of Regents meeting on Jan. 12, board chair Janet Han King told *Saipan Tribune* that both the OAG and a fact-finding committee formed by the board are separately investigating Fernandez. At that time, *Saipan Tribune* learned that the probes were related to issues about the grades of students, personnel matters and other "issues" but the board did not elaborate.

Fernandez's suspension was effective immediately and will last until the results of the two investigations are disclosed to the board, she said.

But King said the board has no plans at this time to replace Fernandez, a former Guam senator.

On that same day, Fernandez calmly accepted the Board of Regents' decision to suspend her, saying she will fully cooperate with the twin investigations being conducted at the college.


Forbes
AMERICA'S BEST BANKS
#1 Bank of Hawaii
#2 UMB Financial
To every one of our 2,500 employees
and over 500,000 customers who
helped Bank of Hawaii achieve this honor,
our most sincere thank you.
–Al Landon, CEO
Recently, Forbes Magazine bestowed an incredible honor on Bank of Hawaii. After reviewing the financial performance of America's top 100 banks, Forbes named Bank of Hawaii "America's Best Bank." It's an award that is a testament to the hard work and dedication of every one of our 2,500 employees. More importantly, thanks to their tireless efforts and exceptional service, we have earned the trust and loyalty of over 500,000 of you, the best customers in America. To everyone who helped us achieve this honor, our most heartfelt mahalo. To read the Forbes article in its entirety, please visit boh.com/bestbank.
Bank of Hawaii
We're proud to be a sponsor of USO
©2010 Bank of Hawaii *Forbes Magazine, January 18, 2010
boh.com
Member FDIC

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, January 22, 2010 beginning at 9:00 AM at the MPLT Conference Room, Suite #107, Morgen Building; Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

I PRELIMINARIES
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes

II CONSULTANT'S REPORTS
- Legal Counsel Reports
- Investment Consultant Reports
- Loan Administrator Reports
  - o Status Updates
  - o Individual Recommendations
- Board Consultant Reports
  - o Financial Statements – October 2009
  - o Flash Reports – December 2009

III OLD BUSINESS
- Office Space Lease Review & Action
- Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan Investment Request Review and Action
- IBPC Investment Request Review & Action
- High Yield Investment RFP Review & Action

IV COMMUNICATIONS
- Open Government Act Request – Rep. R. Yumul
- Request for Comments – Saipan Tribune Reporter
- Administrative Error Inquiry – Deloitte
- A&E Request for Proposal

V NEW BUSINESS
- MPLT Resolution #10-04 Review & Action
- Strategic Plan Proposal
- Service Providers Review

VI MISCELLANEOUS

VII ADJOURNMENT

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Phillip Mendiola-Long, AIF
Chairman, MPLT Trustees

Kilili reaffirms commitment to PSS

Efforts ongoing at securing additional federal money under Title I

From securing more federal funding under Title I to additional books and resources for all 20 public schools, to programs and scholarships for CNMI public elementary, junior and senior high schools, U.S. Congressman Gregorio Kilili Sablan announced yesterday that efforts are underway at giving the CNMI-Public School System the needed federal government support in providing free yet quality public education.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

U.S. Congressman Gregorio Kilili Sablan yesterday met with CNMI Public School System officials led by Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan at Capital Hill.

"My office is working closely with the Office of the Education Commissioner on various federal programs that we both believe will further better the services provided by the CNMI Public School System," Sablan told PSS Central Office personnel yesterday morning, confirming on-going discussions with the U.S. Department of Education for more Title I funding.

Several of CNMI-PSS programs are federally-mandated and tapping Title I or additional federal monies through the U.S. Department of Education are already being explored with Congressman Sablan in direct discussion with Assistant Education Secretary Gabriella Gomez.

"Exploring for more of Title I for PSS is another on-going effort that my office is working on with the Assistant Education Secretary," said Sablan, who marked his birthday meeting with CNMI-PSS leadership and personnel on Capital Hill.

By the end of 2009 record showed that the CNMI-PSS received an estimated of over $60 million in federal funds including the recently-awarded State Fiscal Stabilization Fund. The multimillion-dollar SFSF money formed part of the Obama White House's stimulus plan or the $100-billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The $28 million SFSF money awarded to the Public School System last year is the largest single federal funding awarded for public education—and that the CNMI Public School System bested other territories for this grant-award.

"Credit goes out to PSS Central Office personnel, led by Dr. Rita Sablan. You (CNMI-PSS) are known already in Washington, D.C. and your continued cooperation and unity is already admirable," Kilili opined.

Education Commissioner Sablan noted that the continued support of Congressman Sablan's office has translated to the better delivery and improvement of PSS' programs and services, including student performance. Last year's student performance on SAT10 and SBA—programs that are receiving federal assistance—topped that of other school districts within the US territories.

The CNMI-PSS' Highly-Qualified Teacher mandate, through the Praxis I and II program, continue to gain support, as well. It has set a July 31, 2011-deadline for a 100-percentage passing requirement for all teachers and teacher applicants.

Yesterday, the U.S. congressman also joined Education Commissioner Sablan, Associate Commissioner for Curriculum and Instruction Jackie Quitugua and Federal Program Officer Jack Diaz in a video teleconference with officials and administrators of Rota Junior High School, Sinapalo Elementary School and Rota High School.

During the video conference, Congressman Sablan announced that his office has secured a huge volume of elementary and high school books and other reading/resource materials from the U.S. Congress' library and his office has started shipping them to all 20 public schools. Garapan Elementary School and Rota High School were the first to receive the books.

"We got the books already and on behalf of our students, we are grateful of your effort," Rota High School Principal Sharlene Manglona said during the video-teleconference.

"He has been very supportive on all of our efforts," Garapan Elementary School Principal Yvonne Reyes-Pangelinan separately said. ***(PR)***

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on January 20th, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before January 20th.

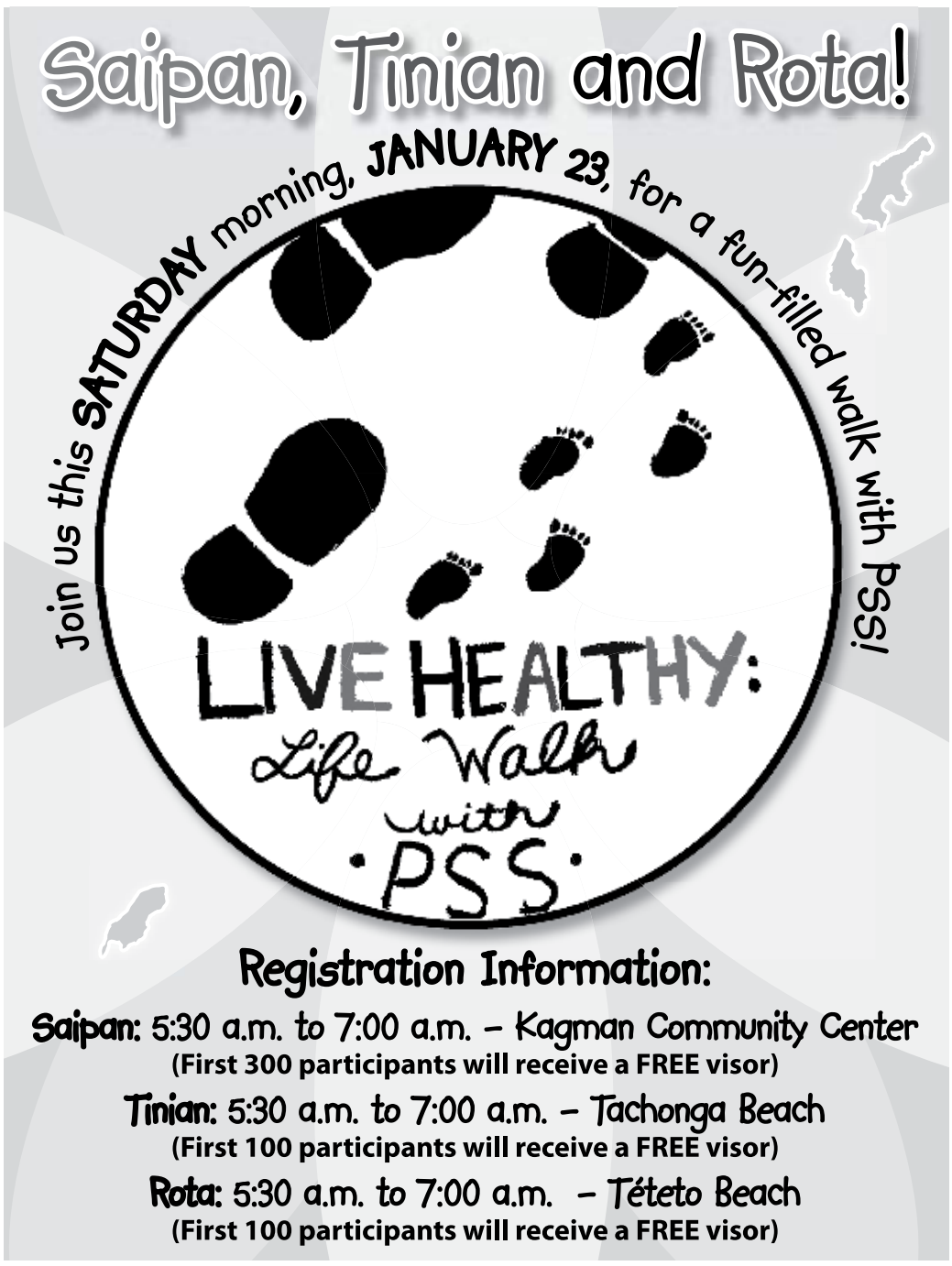
THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

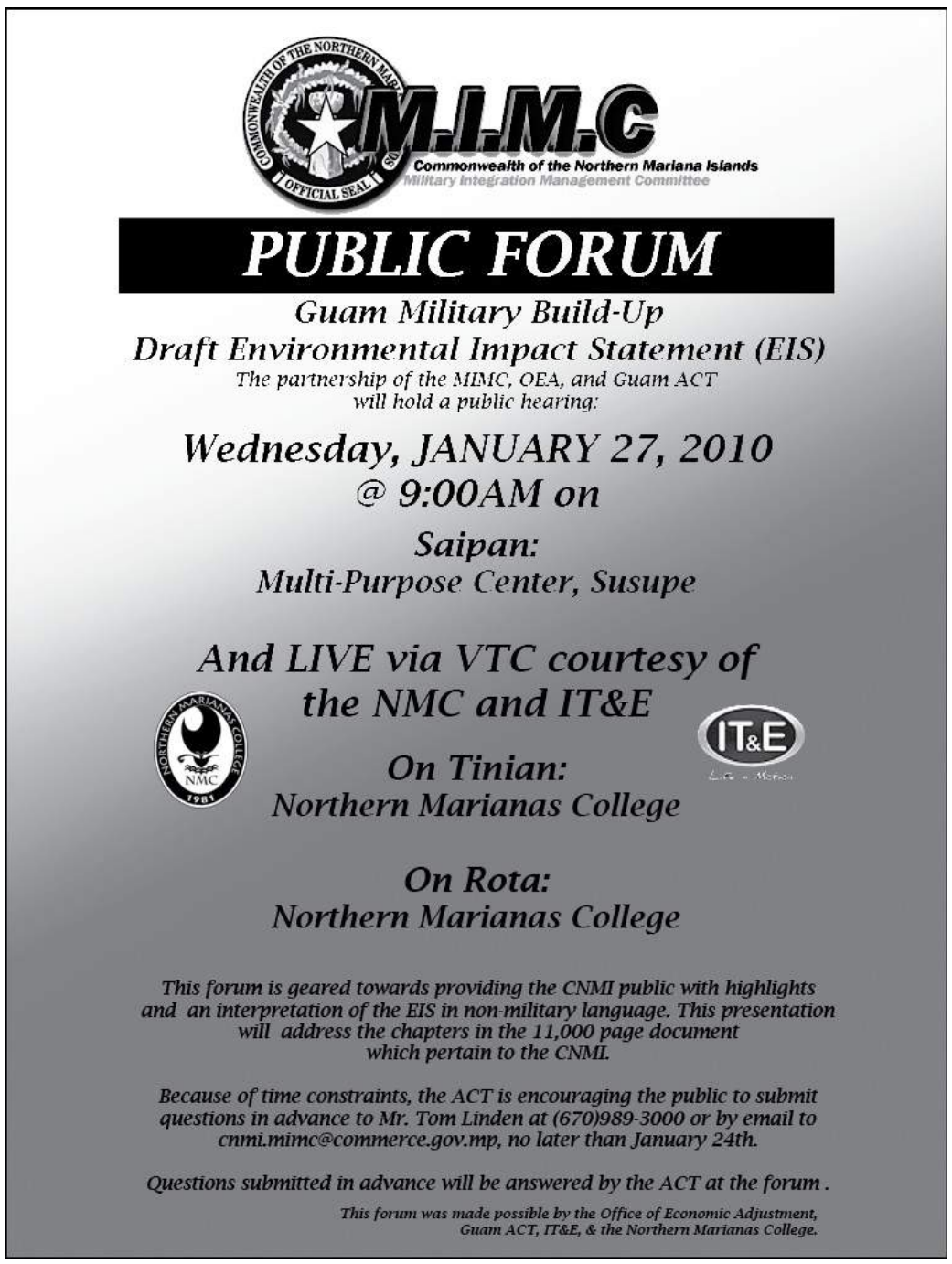
* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than January 20th. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or visit our Customer Service Representatives at our Chalan Lau-Lau Office.

IT&E
Life in Motion

5 GALLON
5 GALLONS
IT'S DOUBLE STAMP DAYS AT SHELL!
For a limited time, when you gas up at Shell, you'll be rewarded with Double Stamps for each gallon of fuel purchased. Double Stamps allow you to redeem your Lucky 7 Passport in half the time, which means more value for you.
Hurry in to Shell today for this limited time offer!
made to move
A WORLD OF CHOICES!
Don't gas up without it!


Saipan, Tinian and Rota!
Join us this SATURDAY morning, JANUARY 23, for a fun-filled walk with PSS!
LIVE HEALTHY:
Life Walk
with
PSS
Registration Information:
Saipan: 5:30 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. – Kagman Community Center
(First 300 participants will receive a FREE visor)
Tinian: 5:30 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. – Tachonga Beach
(First 100 participants will receive a FREE visor)
Rota: 5:30 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. – Téteto Beach
(First 100 participants will receive a FREE visor)


M.I.M.C
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Military Integration Management Committee
PUBLIC FORUM
Guam Military Build-Up
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
The partnership of the MIMC, OEA, and Guam ACT
will hold a public hearing:
Wednesday, JANUARY 27, 2010
@ 9:00AM on
Saipan:
Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe
And LIVE via VTC courtesy of
the NMC and IT&E
On Tinian:
Northern Marianas College
On Rota:
Northern Marianas College
This forum is geared towards providing the CNMI public with highlights and an interpretation of the EIS in non-military language. This presentation will address the chapters in the 11,000 page document which pertain to the CNMI.
Because of time constraints, the ACT is encouraging the public to submit questions in advance to Mr. Tom Linden at (670)989-3000 or by email to cnmi.mimc@commerce.gov.mp, no later than January 24th.
Questions submitted in advance will be answered by the ACT at the forum .
This forum was made possible by the Office of Economic Adjustment, Guam ACT, IT&E, & the Northern Marianas College.

Delta Airlines adds daily flight to NMI from Narita

Delta Airlines has added an additional daytime flight from Narita to Saipan. The additional flight, started on Jan. 1, will bring much-needed stability to air lift supply for this island resort destination.

"Delta's commitment for the new year is most-welcomed news," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio. "A stable air seat supply will allow travel agents more opportunities to develop and sell tour packages to individuals interested in visiting Saipan, Tinian, and Rota."

In addition to the new flight to Saipan, each day Delta operates one daytime (182 seats) and one nighttime flight (182 seats) from Narita and one daytime flight (182 seats) from Nagoya, Asiana Airlines also flies to Saipan daily from Osaka. The additional daytime flight of 160 seats by Delta this month will result in 13 percent more air seats from Japan compared to January 2009.

While the new flight is positive news for Northern Marianas tourism, major travel agents are still expressing caution about fewer group travel bookings and the continuing trend of decreased pricing for packages to the Northern Marianas.

"One of the major changes our tourism partners face is to reverse the trend of low pricing for packages to the Northern Marianas," said Tenorio. "The tough economy in Japan and tourism issues such as H1N1 flu fears have driven prices lower, but this downward price trend is unsustainable. Stable air lift supply by Delta, Asiana Airlines, and Continental is absolutely critical for our tourism partners, which is why the MVA is prioritizing airline incentives—to keep flights flying."

Tourism is the primary industry of the Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. ***(PR)***

Filing of 4Q tax returns on Feb. 1

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to remind all CNMI residents that the 2009 fourth quarter deadline for filing the quarterly tax returns is Monday, Feb 1, 2010. The Division of Revenue and Taxation will be open from 7:30am to 4:30pm on Monday Feb. 1, 2010. The office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation is located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. For additional information call 664-1000, 664-1043 Compliance Branch, or 664-1065 Collection Branch. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jan. 21, 1999

Legislators asks CPA to defer hikes

Legislators yesterday frowned on a proposed rate increase at the airport to repay some $53 million in debt owed by Commonwealth Ports Authority due to potential negative impact on the local tourism economy that has been battered already by plummeting tourist arrivals. Instead, they urged CPA to defer the hike for at least one year and give way to a plan by the Aviation Task Force to reduce the landing fees paid by airlines in a bid to entice the carriers to increase their flights to the Northern Marianas. In a meeting with members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, ports authority officials defended the move as an urgent measure to generate additional revenues to meet its various financial obligations, including debt servicing.

Bill levies garment products

A legislative proposal is under way in the House of Representatives seeking to impose a $1.25 fee on each finished garment product in the CNMI, whose proceeds will be set aside for homestead and public education funds. House Bill 11-362, proposed by Rep. Rosiky Camacho, aims to generate millions of dollars in additional revenues for the financially-troubled government for critical agencies, such as the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College. But the proposal is expected to draw opposition from garment leaders whose heavily-taxed industry has become the steady source of income for the commonwealth when its major tourism economy continues to suffer in the wake of the Asian financial turmoil.

Jan. 21, 2000

Increase in business activity noted

After reaching rock bottom, the local economy is starting to rebound as manifested by the significant growth in the number of business licenses issued by the Department of Commerce during the last fiscal year. Government statistics disclosed a whooping 43.27 percent increase in revenues generated from business licensing fees in FY-1999, from $721,000 to $1.033 million. In 1998, the commerce department issued 877 new business licenses or a monthly average of 73 new investments. This is translated into 45 difference or a five percent drop compared with the previous year's tally.

Kara mum, Arriola ecstatic over ruling

The victorious hailed the decision of the court against the authority of acting Attorney General Maya B. Kara, while the embattled chief government lawyer kept silent. A visibly forlorn Ms. Kara declined to give official statement on the court ruling when sought by reporters after attending the CNMI Bar Association meeting at the Hyatt Regency yesterday. She only said that she had not seen the decision and that she would meet with Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to discuss the issue. She did not elaborate. There was also no immediate reaction from the governor, although he has repeatedly said that he is set to name a permanent Attorney General by this week to replace Ms. Kara who was never confirmed by the Senate.

Jan. 21, 2002

DPS jump-starts violent-crime solving

A newly created unit under the Criminal Bureau of Investigation has started reviewing 28 unsolved homicide cases pending in the last 23 years, amid fresh efforts to bring to justice victims of violent crimes. The Department of Public Safety has jumpstarted the CIB's Homicide Unit, a group whose sole focus will be devoted to solving cold crimes. Acting Police Commissioner Santiago Tudela assigned five police investigators to make up the new unit, headed by veteran police officer Sgt. Joe Aldan, as appointed supervisor. Four more police officers are expected to join the unit.

'Labor system is key vs takeover'

The best way to stave off any attempts at a federal takeover in labor and immigration in the CNMI is to put in place a system that is transparent and efficient, which will inherently be fairer for both the workers the employers. Gov. Juan N. Babauta stressed this point before the audience at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Installation Dinner Saturday night, adding that, by improving the labor and immigration system, Washington will be convinced of the CNMI's capacity to handle such issues by itself. "Through this, we make life easier for the business community, we make life better for nonresident workers, and we reassure the people in Washington who want to take over that there is no need to take over," Babauta said.

NMC helps with formation of local aquatic farmers group

Aquatic farmers on the island of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota recently met with aquaculture experts from the Northern Marianas College to discuss the formation of a cooperative among aquatic farmers that would help individual local farmers cut costs and increase their exports.

The group of farmers, whose proposed union name is the CNMI Aquaculture Producers Association (APA), met with Rota and Tinian participants through a conference call in the NMC Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service (CREES) conference room. Once formed, the APA aims to centralize the marketing and branding of stock, establish product quality standards (size, weight, color), and the possibly produce feeds on-island.

Several farmers have already been selected for ad hoc committee to create the APA by-laws. These individuals include (Saipan) John Hosono, James Matsumoto, Mel Catalma, (Rota) Nicolas Songsong, and (Tinian) Melvin Crisostomo.

Other topics discussed during the meeting were the concerns facing local aquatic farmers, such as CUC water rates, cost of feed locally, marketing opportunities abroad, and available federal grants.

"All the necessary grants, technology, and expertise are available to aquatic farmers in the CNMI," said NMC aquaculture extension agent Michael Ogo. "All that was needed was an organization of private citizens to take advantage of these resources."

Some of the grants available to farmers in the CNMI include the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Energy for America Program, which will fund energy-saving improvement projects, and the Small, Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grant Program, which will provide funds for technical assistance.

"Given the CNMI's water resources, tropical environment, and proximity to key markets, we've always realized that there are significant economic opportunities for the local aquaculture industry," said Tee Abraham, NMC Dean of Community Programs and Services. "We will continue to support efforts like the APA and other activities to build capacity and expand aquacultural activities in the CNMI."

CREES' staff also vowed to continue to support APA members through various trainings and workshops, which will be scheduled during the coming months. A Tilapia Management Practices workshop has already been scheduled for March 23, 2010. The College will release details about the seminar within the next few weeks.

"As part of our ongoing efforts to build up the aquaculture industry, we will continue to make ourselves and our resources available to assist in any way we can," Ogo added.

"We are pleased to see that many aquatic farmers are taking the initiative to focus their energies on a collective effort to diminish economical pressures facing the growing aquaculture industry," said NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera.

Individuals interested in entering the aquaculture industry or gaining membership into the APA should call Michael Ogo at 234-5498 ext. 1728 or e-mail michaelo@nmcnet.edu. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Several local aquatic farmers pose for photo after a meeting with NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera, center, and NMC's aquaculture specialists Mike Ogo, far right, Bill Joseph, second from right, and Ray Dela Cruz, sixth from right.

NMC *hires new guidance specialist*

Northern Marianas College recently hired a new guidance specialist to help enhance the services provided by the College's Upward Bound Program.

Hedwig A. Hofschneider, a native of Saipan, has played key roles in many volunteer activities in California's Bay Area. Some of these include workshops to assist low-income high school students apply for college and financial aid and events to promote active, healthy lifestyles through sports.

A certified ESL teacher, Hofschneider also assisted elementary students with their English homework and even helped a traveling Korean scholar improve her English skills through weekly sessions.

Hofschneider's volunteer activities, though, did not go unnoticed. He has received a number of awards for the hours he has put into community service. Serving as Service Vice-President of the Circle K International Community Service Organization, he received the Distinguished Vice-President Award, after leading 87 members to produce nearly 11,000 community service hours between April 2007 and March 2008.

Hofschneider

From 2006 to 2007, Hofschneider also led a fundraising committee that raised over $10,000 for various charities around the Bay Area, including the Pediatric Trauma Program, which benefited the Oakland Children's Hospital. He also led the committee to receive the California-Nevada-Hawaii district awards for raising the most money overall and raising the most money for the Pediatric Trauma Program.

"It has always been my personal commitment to be active in the community, no matter where I am," said Hofschneider. "I am honored to have been selected for the position and am excited for all the student events and activities ahead of me."

Hofschneider graduated with a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in South & Southeast Asian studies from the University of California at Berkeley. He also holds a Certificate to Teach English as a Second Language from UC Berkeley's extension program.

"The NMC community is pleased to welcome Hedwig, as his volunteer background and leadership experience will surely benefit the participants of the Upward Bound Program," said NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera.

The Upward Bound Program is a federally-funded program under TRiO, a section of the U.S Department of Education. The program aims to help high school students prepare for college through tutoring and academic, financial, and personal counseling. ***(PR)***

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students at the Northern Marianas College pose for a photo during the first day of the Spring 2010 semester which began on Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010. NMC's enrollment for Spring 2010 is up from last Spring.

JOETEN GRAND PRIZE WINNER CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Forcina Indalecio Banca was the lucky winner of a brand new Ford Ranger from Joeten's 60th Anniversary Grand Prize Raffle. "I've never won anything this big before so I'm just so happy. At first, my relatives had heard my name being announced on the radio. I didn't believe it so I just came to Joeten Susupe to see if it was true," she said. The winning ticket came from Joeten Susupe.

Docomo Pacific unveils Haiti text fundraising campaign

In an effort to assist victims of the recent devastating earthquake in Haiti, Docomo Pacific is announcing that its customers will be able to donate funds by texting to 42484 (HAITI) on their Docomo Pacific phones.

This fundraising program will run from Jan. 19 through Feb. 15 for both prepaid and postpaid Docomo Pacific customers. By texting to 42484 on their cell phones, donors will be giving $5 per text to the relief fund. This charge will be deducted from the subscribers load value for prepaid customers. For postpaid customers, the charge will appear on their bills. Customers may text as many times as they like.

All texting funds collected will be donated to the Saipan chapter of the American Red Cross who has already initiated donations and a local fund drive for the people of Haiti.

"We are saddened by the unfortunate disaster that has befallen Haiti," said Jay Shedd, president/CEO of Docomo Pacific and current chairman of the Board for the Guam Chapter of the American Red Cross. "On behalf of Docomo Pacific and the American Red Cross, our goal is to raise as much finds as possible to assist the victims in their anguish and allow some normalcy to return to their lives".

Docomo Pacific has been the islands' leading wireless communications provider since 1992. The company is known for maintaining a leadership position in delivering the latest wireless technologies.

Docomo Pacific was the first to introduce wireless data, content, ringtones and picture messaging services through its FX and BREW services. Docomo Pacific has earned a reputation for providing superior coverage and typhoon proven reliability. A cornerstone of Docomo Pacific's appeal has been its strategy to provide customers with the best overall value in the wireless services and being an active participant in community events. ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 16

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Martin Luther King Jr. Day: What has changed in 50 years

This day has become, like most of our holidays, more an occasion for rest, recreation and celebration than for reflection. But our national regard for all things decimal suggests that Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2010 is a good time to do a little looking back and sizing up.

Fifty years ago, and just across the river from the nation's capital, children of African descent (including many whose ancestors worked the land for George Washington) were being bused far from their neighborhoods to maintain segregated school systems. Black people in Virginia were discouraged from registering to vote, interracial marriage was prohibited—in Arlington and Fairfax counties—and lunch counters generally expected black customers to order carry-out only. In parts of the District of Columbia (where public schools had been desegregated for only a few years) and its Maryland suburbs, housing discrimination created what civil rights activists called a "white noose" around the inner city. The Washington Redskins had not a single black player.

All this unpleasant history is, of course, well known, but not really all that well remembered, even by many of those who lived it. Then as now, the concrete, day-to-day realities of segregation were put out of mind by many who weren't its victims. There were places, especially farther south, where elemental emotions of fear and hatred were what sustained the system, but in this generally tolerant and well-educated region, it was more a matter of accepting an arrangement that most could see was unfair but that didn't seem to work too badly—at least not for them.

In 1963 blacks and whites came together in a great congregation on this city's Mall that did not change history but, rather, confirmed that it was on a new course. The nation was not wired or pre-informed then—each sentence that the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. uttered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial was new to most Americans—"I have a dream," "the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners" and the exultant conclusion: "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!" It was perhaps the most powerful, authentic speech delivered in this city of oratorical winds during the 20th century.

As always happens after such occasions, there have followed many setbacks and side trips, discouragements and disillusionments. Yet one need look back only five decades, not that long a time, really, to understand how much was accomplished that day. America today still has deep problems with racism, even under the administration of its first African American president. But it can also be argued that in the past half-century the country has undergone a sort of conversion experience similar to that of Abraham Lincoln. In 1862 he told a group of black leaders invited to the White House: "You and we are different races. It is better for us both to be separated." Yet, less than three years later, he invoked an almost biblical vision of the Civil War as divine punishment for the sin of slavery. He had changed in important ways. So has this country. Look around now and look back 50 years. There's been backsliding and wandering, but that was not a fleeting conversion that Dr. King helped bring about.

(c) 2010, The Washington Post

Beyond pledges, Haiti needs a bank account

THE WASHINGTON POST

In Port-au-Prince on Sunday, Haitians burn debris, and sometimes bodies, in the aftermath of last week's devastating earthquake. Haiti does not need a pledging session; it needs money in the bank to fund its survival and reconstruction, the author writes.

By JEFFREY D. SACHS
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

President Barack Obama has declared that the United States will not forsake Haiti in its moment of agony. Honoring this commitment would be a first for Washington.

To prevent a deepening spiral of death, the United States will have to do things differently than in the past. American relief and development institutions do not function properly, and to believe otherwise would be to condemn Haiti's poor and dying to our own mythology.

In Haiti, we are facing not only a horrific natural disaster but the tectonics of nature, poverty and politics. Even before last week's earthquake, roughly half of the nation's 10 million inhabitants lived in destitution, in squalid housing built of adobe or masonry without reinforcements, perched precariously on hillsides. The country is still trying to recover from the hurricanes of 2008 as well as longtime social and political traumas. The government's inability to cope has been obvious, but those of us who have been around Haiti for many years also know about the lofty international promises that follow each disaster—and how ineffectual the response has been each time.

In the past two decades, U.S. interventions have done much more harm than good to the Haitian economy. In the early 1990s, Washington imposed a crushing trade embargo to bring about democratization—specifically, the reinstatement of democratically elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The embargo destroyed Haiti's fragile manufacturing industries.

Then, true to America's political swings, ideologues in the Bush administration spent years trying to oust Aristide, first by foisting a de facto and illegal aid freeze on international development agencies, and then by brazenly toppling Aristide and carrying him to the Central African Republic. Congress took a pass on reviewing these sordid events, pausing only to declare its love for the Haitian people.

Now it's time to save Haitian lives by the millions, or watch a generation perish. A serious response will require a new approach. Obama should recognize that the U.S. government alone lacks the means, attention span and true regard for Haiti that is needed to see this through past the most urgent phase. After the coming weeks, during which U.S. emergency airlift assistance is essential, the effort should be quickly internationalized, in an effective manner that acknowledges U.S. political realities and

See BEYOND on Page 13

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Be true to yourself: Career day advice for students at Marianas High School

The Saipanpreneur Project

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

Today, Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2010, starting at 10am, I'll be a presenter at the Marianas High School (MHS) Career Day event. The only challenge, as I see it is that I don't really know what my career is!

By traditional definitions, I HAD a career at one time, but I gave that up. Nowadays, what others would call my "career" doesn't fit neatly in a box, and it isn't easily defined by a single profession, a single industry, or a single role, but by the pursuit of my passions, the fulfillment of my desires, and a personal commitment to live true to myself at all times.

In any event, as I'm actually writing this column a day before Career Day, here's what will likely happen when I get there. (Note: All my advice is for students everywhere, not just at MHS!)

First, I'll share my story:

"Once upon a time, there was this civil engineer who hated his career, followed his passion, started a sideline business self-publishing his own books, made enough money to quit his job, ran away to a tropical island in the South Pacific, and started a tourism business so he could give tours of the island to pretty girls every day!"

Then, I'll tell them what I actually do from day to day:

At any given time, depending on the needs of the moment, the requests of my clients, or the mood I'm in, I might be writing a book, coaching other aspiring passionpreneurs, designing websites, composing columns, consulting other business owners on internet marketing, or selling the virtues of Saipan as a destination for tourists and expats, nomads, and new residents. At at other times, you'll find me basking in the sun on the rocks in Marpi doing absolutely nothing at all.

I don't separate my career from my lifestyle. In other words, what I choose to do every day "for a living" is determined by the lifestyle I want to live. Many people choose their jobs, professions and careers based on how much money they will make. I choose mine based on how much personal freedom and control it can offer me, and by how much it allows me to live out my purpose and my passion every day.

Someone will probably ask me what my purpose is...

My purpose, as I see it, is to teach others alternative ways of thinking, acting and being in order to discover their own truth about themselves and why they are here.

Then, someone will probably ask me what my own passion is...

Most of what I do revolves around my writing and communication ability. The primary talent that I have that helps me fulfill my purpose, create products to sell, generate income, and, thereby choose my "career" is my ability to string a sensible sentence or two together. I think I can write well enough to communicate valuable ideas.

Through my writing, I am able to create books that people want to buy. Then, combined with what I've learned about selling on the internet, I can create (write) websites that communicate the value in those books, and persuade people to buy them.

Then, someone will probably ask how much money I make...

And, I'll artfully avoid the question because:

- how much money I make has no bearing on how much you can make. (In my own consulting practice, I've often helped people make more money than I do)
- if you follow my advice and pursue your passion, your own "career" will look nothing like mine, so that's like deciding if you want to become a baker, by asking a candle-stick maker how much money she makes!
- In my country, it's considered rude to ask that question!

However, I will mention as a teaser that when I wrote my first book, and started selling it by mail-order way before the internet came along, I made enough money to match my civil engineering income!

Then, I'll share what the bottom line is for me...

Because I live true to myself, I get to choose my clients, my business partners, what sorts of products I will sell, and what sorts of industries I will get involved in. In other words, I get to choose how I spend my time. I'm not controlled by a boss who sets my salary, stabbed in the back by co-workers who want to get ahead, and I always reserve the right to simply walk away from clients, and situations that I don't want to work with or in.

Now, being so selective about how I spend my time, may or may not be the formula for becoming fabulously wealthy, but it's part of the formula for living the life of my own choice, rather than someone else's, and that is my own bottom line.

Someone may ask what they should be doing now...

Your mission, starting now, and definitely before you get to college is to determine your purpose, find out what you're good at, and look to create something of value to share with the world so that you can "create" your way to wealth, rather than "compete" with others for it. If you simply look for a job, you'll always be in competition with others who want the same job. However, if you create something new based on your talents and passion, you earn money based on creation, not competition.

A lifestyle and wealth generated by competition can always be taken away from you if someone faster, cheaper, flashier or younger comes along. However, a lifestyle and the ability to create wealth generated by creation is yours forever.

Then I'll suggest that "Desire is Power"...

The desire to do a thing is an indication that you have the power to do that thing. The urge you feel to play the piano, paint, draw, write a book, compose music, help others, save the environment or teach others is God's way of seeking full expression through you. Your desire is your God-given ability trying to push its way out into the world. It may require training and practice for you to become better at the thing, but just the fact that you have the desire is evidence of something seeking expression.

By the same token, the lack of desire to do a thing—your lack of interest in playing the piano, drawing, writing, composing, etc. also provides valuable information. You see, where there is no interest, there is no power. That should be honored, too, and you shouldn't force yourself to do a thing that you don't have the interest, desire or passion to do. That will lead to frustration, dissatisfaction and lack of fulfillment in life.

I'll probably complicate the issue by telling them that at the same time, it's also important to try new things to discover what you're good at, and what you really like.

Then, I'll share The Payoff and the Proof...

Someone asked me recently how successful I've been in pursuing my passion. My answer is that the very fact that my books exist is proof that there was something of value inside me that needed to be expressed. The fact that they sell enough to sustain me is proof that this value is recognized by others. The feedback I receive from customers who've been helped to pursue their dreams as a result of information I shared with them is proof that the books are helping me fulfill my purpose. The recognition I receive, (for instance, CNMI Senate Resolution No. 15-54 here on Saipan) is proof that its value is being acknowledged in a wider context.

But all that is just half the story, since there's a personal payoff that means even more to me. The payoff for me is that I have the freedom to choose where I want to live, and as a result, rather than living a frustrating life in a cold climate, stuck in a career that someone else chose for me, doing something I don't enjoy doing just to earn money, I have the honor and privilege of being here on a beautiful island, on a warm, sunny day surrounded by bright, intelligent students eager to learn new ways of thinking and being so that they can be all they want to be! What a career!

And yes, I know Saipan is actually in the Western Pacific!

Winners of Monday's MLK Day Poster Contest were:

K-2

Matthew W. Thomas 2nd Grade, Grace Christian Academy, Rota
Angela Ann Guiang, K-5, Grace Christian Academy, Rota
Nadia Jade Arriola, K-4, Grace Christian, Rota

3rd-5th

Maria G. Terlaje 3rd Grade, Mount Carmel
Rency Camacho Grace 3rd Grade, Christian Academy-Rota
Audrey Lok Lum Yue, 4th Grade Grace Christian, Saipan

6th -12th

Chrisha Llana, 7th Grade, Grace Christian Academy, Rota
Glengela Guiang, 7th Grade, Grace Christian Academy, Rota
Carmelita Takeshi, 8th Grade, Grace Christian Academy, Rota

Special Mention goes to

Shiara Reyes Ladera International School
for a beautiful portrait of Martin Luther King Jr.
on display at www.blacksonsaipan.com

Winners on Saipan asked to contact Joe Hill at 234-6806 during business hours to arrange pick up of their $20 prize!

***Note:** Ever wanted to direct your friends and family to a set of websites that revealed the best things about Saipan? Do what I do: send them to www.bestofsaipan.com!*

***Note:** Fans and followers of the book, Chicken Feathers and Garlic Skin: Diary of a Chinese Garment Factory Girl on Saipan are encouraged to place orders at www.saipanfactorygirl.com. A new shipment is coming soon, and people are already claiming their copies even before it arrives! Don't miss out!*

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!—Walt

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com. Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 15 books including Turn Your Passion Into Profit. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here on Saipan. To learn more, visit www.passionprofit.com and follow Walt on Twitter (waltonsaipan)

King's dream and Obama

By JONATHAN CAPEHART
The Washington Post

The writer is a member of The Washington Post*'s editorial page staff.*

During the 1963 March on Washington, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." One year after the inauguration of Barack Obama—the first African American of the 44 presidents of the United States—we are seeing King's dream at once realized and deferred.

The recently reported impolitic analysis of Obama's presidential chances offered by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid in 2008 is a timely reminder that skin color is still for many an automatic disqualifier, and that more than four decades later King's dream has yet to be realized. While Reid's remarks damaged his reputation, to acknowledge this scar on the American psyche is not racist. Confronting the limitations of the color barrier and the racism from which they are born remain this nation's unfinished business.

Obama noted last July, at a news conference held in the aftermath of the confrontation between a renowned black Harvard professor and a white Cambridge, Mass., police officer, that race "still haunts us." But it is a triumph that race does not haunt his presidency. This is partly because Obama runs away from race discussions faster than Usain Bolt can finish a 200-meter dash. His ambitious legislative agenda would suffer if he didn't.

Another reason, though, is because he is being judged on how well he functions in the toughest job on Earth. We're still getting to know Obama and how he operates, but it is clear that the uniform knock against him is his temperament. He's seen by many as so cool, even in the face of attempted terrorist attacks, that you'd be forgiven for wanting to put a mirror under his nose to see whether he's breathing.

Of course, some on the far right have made their displeasure with Obama known in racial terms. And Fox News's Glenn Beck called the president a racist on television last July. But I think most Americans would agree that the charge is neither true nor fitting with Obama's character.

Americans today are angry, and the president's approval rating is hovering around 50 percent. But this hostility is not about race. People are upset because they are afraid for their jobs, if they still have them. They are worried about losing their homes. And they are angered by government's inability to address the nation's ills or to curb the excesses of Wall Street that robbed them of the American dream, without adding trillions to the deficit.

Of all recent presidents, only Ronald Reagan began his second year in office with a lower approval score than Obama's current numbers, and the drag on Reagan was a crippled economy. Obama has that AND two wars and the specter of terrorism. That his poll numbers aren't even lower tells me that King's dream is being realized.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy and windy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 25 to 35 mph.	Partly cloudy and windy with a light chance of showers. Northeast winds 20 to 30 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲83° ▼73°	▲83° ▼72°	▲84° ▼72°	▲85° ▼74°	▲86° ▼76°

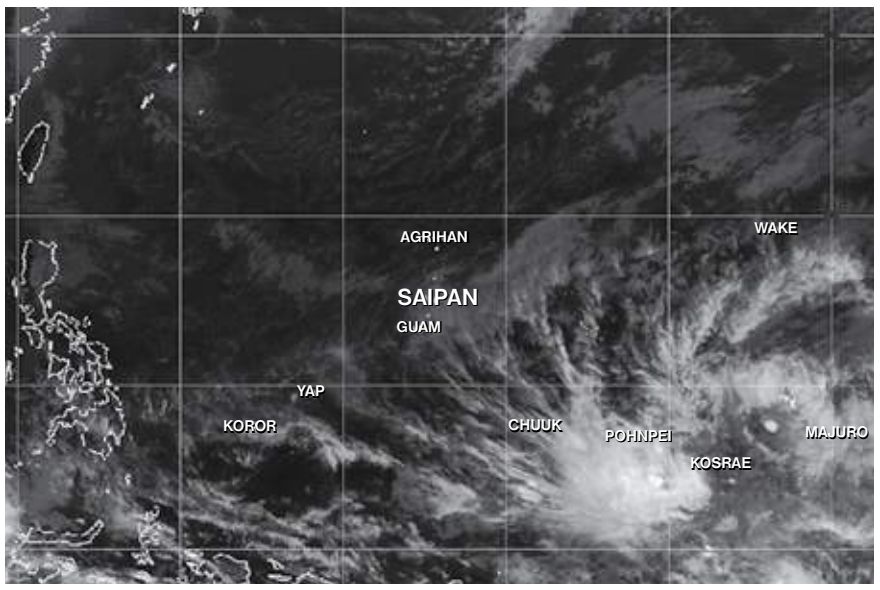
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Windy	▲82	▼73
Palau	Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Yap	Rain	▲85	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲89	▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼78
Kosrae	Rain	▲85	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲72	▼66
Beijing	Sunny	▲32	▼10
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲72	▼64
Honolulu	Sunny	▲80	▼65
London	Showers	▲39	▼32
Los Angeles	Rain	▲56	▼48
Manila	Showers	▲86	▼72
Melbourne	Sunny	▲82	▼61
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲81	▼68
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲42	▼30
Osaka	Showers	▲58	▼47
Paris	Rain	▲39	▼32
Pusan	Rain	▲60	▼34
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	▲48	▼43
Salem	Showers	▲46	▼35
San Francisco	Rain	▲55	▼49
Seoul	Rain	▲41	▼25
Tokyo	Sunny	▲52	▼43
Washington, DC	Cloudy	▲45	▼27

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line extends from 24N180E to just north of Wake Island at 20N166E and continues to just south of Guam at 12N145E to just north of Yap and Koror to end beyond 130E at 8N. The remnants of a second shear line running from 16N134E merge with the first shear line north of Saipan at 16N146E. Clouds and scattered showers are found along and up to 300 miles north of the first shear line over Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan and 150 miles north of the second shear line. A near equatorial trough runs from west of 1N130E to a weak circulation centered at about 2N164E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are located west of the circulation southeast of Chuuk and south of Pohnpei between 1N and 6N from 155E to 162E. Farther east low level convergent winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Kwajalein and Majuro within 150 miles of a line from 9N163E to 9N169E to 6N170E and south of Butaritari between the equator and 1N from 170E to 174E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:26 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
11:00 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
5:23 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
10:29 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:47 AM	6:39 PM
Thursday	6:47 AM	6:09 PM
Friday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:10 PM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:38 AM	10:01 PM
Thursday	10:12 AM	10:48 PM
Friday	10:49 AM	11:38 PM
Saturday	11:28 AM	
Sunday	12:12 AM	12:30 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 13, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:30am	12:05pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:40pm	1:10pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:30am	1:10pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:20pm	1:10pm	4, 5
C09603	3:15pm	4:05pm	Daily
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
C09599	9:20pm	10:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW287	6:00am	7:30pm	1,3,4,5,6,7 via NRT
NW638	8:00am	10:50am	2,3,4,5,6,7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW287	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
NW297	4:45pm	7:30pm	Daily
NW289	5:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via Osaka
		Arrive OSA 6:40am, leave OSA 9:30am	
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7 via ICN
OZ608/705	3:20am	1:30am+1	1, 4, 5, 7 via PUS
C09603/893	3:15pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-PALAU
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:20pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:10am	12:00pm	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:40am	12:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	4, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:10am	3:45am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:00am	2:30am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:00am	2:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09598	2:00am	3:45am	5, 6 via ROP
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	4:50pm	5:40pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW288	12:05pm	1:35am+1	1,3,4,5,6,7 via NRT
NW277	8:30pm	1:00am+1	3,6
NW639	9:00pm	1:35am+1	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW298	10:05am	2:50pm	Daily
NW288	9:0pm	1:35am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:10am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via Osaka
		Arrive OSA 8:50pm, leave OSA 9:50pm	
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ716/605	12:30am	2:20pm	4,6 via ICN
OZ706/607	3:35am	2:10am+1	3,4,6,7 via PUS
OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1 via ICN	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
PR110/C09596	10:10pm	7:50am+1 via GUM	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via PALAU-GUM
OZ704/605	11:55pm	2:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2,4,6,7 via ICN
OZ750/605	1:00am	2:20pm	2,4,6,7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

BEYOND

From Page 10

leverages the help that Washington will give.

Typically, a tragedy such as this is followed by international pledges of billions of dollars, but then only a slow trickle of help. The government of Haiti, overwhelmed far before this earthquake, is in no position to pester 20 or more complicated donor agencies to follow up on designing projects and disbursing funds. The recovery operation needs money in the bank—in a single, transparent, multidonor recovery fund for Haiti and the world to see. Haiti does not need a pledging session; it needs a bank account to fund its survival and reconstruction. The Inter-American Development Bank would be an excellent venue; it is well-run and highly regarded, already serves as Haiti's largest development financier and could bring in donor partners from around the globe.

How would a Haiti Recovery Fund be organized? It should receive emergency outlays from the United States and other donors; organize a board that includes members appointed by Haitian President René Préval, the U.N. secretary general and donors; and empower a management team to formulate and execute plans agreed to by the Haitian government.

Very soon, the first phase of recovery operations in Haiti will end. Tragically, tens or hundreds of thousands will have died under the rubble, with relief and equipment arriving too late. Now the race is on to save Haiti itself. Its capital, a city without reserves of food, water, power, shelter, hospitals, medicine and other vital supplies, faces the real possibilities of hunger, epidemics and civil unrest. And the rest of the country is like a body without a head. The port is shut, the government is overwhelmed, many U.N. peacekeepers have transferred to Port-au-Prince, and the normal operations of government have broken down entirely.

THE WASHINGTON POST

With the help of search dogs, rescue workers from Belgium and Spain look for survivors at a collapsed school in Port-au-Prince last Thursday. Even before last week's earthquake, roughly half of Haiti's 10 million inhabitants lived in destitution, in squalid housing built of adobe or masonry without reinforcements, perched precariously on hillsides.

The recovery fund would focus first on restoring basic services needed for survival. For months to come, medical supplies from abroad should be stockpiled and then distributed in the capital and beyond. Makeshift surgical units and clinical facilities will be essential. Power plants on offshore barges will be needed for electricity until new plants can be constructed. The salaries of public workers—especially teachers, police officers, nurses, reconstruction workers and engineers—must be assured, despite an utter collapse of revenues. Haiti's currency will need to be backed by international reserves so that the demand for public spending does not create harrowing inflation. The Haiti Recovery Fund, together with a quick-disbursing grant from the International Monetary Fund, should provide the needed reserves and budget financing.

Emergency relief should quickly and seamlessly transform into reconstruction and development. If we stop at humanitarian relief alone, Haiti will be back in crisis soon enough, after the next disaster. The first step in this transition is food security: Haiti's farmers will need seed and fertilizer within weeks if they are to grow food for a destitute country. The displaced urban population will need income support or food transfers to subsist. The World Food Program's effective food-for-work projects can help feed workers recruited to rebuild roads and buildings.

After the extreme emergency period over the next few weeks, growing more food in Haiti will be far cheaper, more reliable and more sustainable than living on imported food aid. Supplying the farm inputs to Haiti will require more grants—as impoverished farmers have no capacity to buy seeds, fertilizer and small-scale equipment—as well as official aid to help deliver such materials to Haiti's remote villages.

New shelters must not be makeshift units that would be destroyed by Haiti's frequent floods, landslides and hurricanes. The country will need a revived and expanded construction industry to produce the brick, reinforced concrete and other vital materials. Private companies, domestic and international, should be contracted to set up operations. China is capable of quickly dismantling a factory, putting it in containers on ships and reconstructing it within weeks in a foreign location. Such efforts are needed immediately. (The asphalt for Liberia's roads comes from a Chinese factory assembled this way in the capital, Monrovia.) The list of needs goes on; it was very long and urgent even before last week's calamity.

The Haiti Recovery Fund should be constituted for five years—a suitable period to respond to such a challenge. Electoral politics in Haiti should be suspended for at least one year as well. This is no time for national elections; the people's survival is the first purpose of politics.

How much money would the Haiti Recovery Fund need? And where should it come from? Here is a rough estimate: Before the earthquake but after the hurricanes, I had calculated an urgent (and unmet) development financing need of $1.4 billion per year for Haiti, up from about $300 million currently. Basic urgent reconstruction costs will add perhaps another $5 billion to $10 billion over the next few years. One can imagine annual disbursements of $2 billion to $3 billion annually over the next five years.

Obama should seek an immediate appropriation of at least $1 billion this year and next for a Haiti Recovery Fund, and ask other countries and international agencies to fill in the rest, not with promises but with cash. The obvious way for Washington to cover this new funding is by introducing special taxes on Wall Street bonuses, utterly unjustified payments that will be announced in the next days.

Haiti will suffer a quick death of hunger and disease unless we act, and the United States will suffer a slow and painful moral death unless we respond to the extreme distress of our neighbors, whom we have neglected for so long and, at times, even put in harm's way.

Sachs is the director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and the author of "Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet."

SHIPPING SCHEDULE

MARIANA EXPRESS LINES PTE. LTD.

Outbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETD Jakarta	ETD Bangkok	ETD P. Kelang	ETD Melbourne	ETD Singapore	ETD Hochiminh	ETD Busan	ETD Kobe	ETD Shanghai	ETD Auckland	ETD Manila	ETD Hongkong	ETD Kaoshiung	ETD Naha
MELL SERAPONG	003E	1/9 Sat	1/7 Thu	1/7 Thu	1/5 Tue	1/2 Sat	1/15 Fri	1/11 Mon	1/10 Sun	1/3 Sun	1/3 Sun	1/11 Mon	1/15 Fri	1/17 Sun	1/19 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	032E	1/16 Sat	1/14 Thu	1/14 Thu	1/12 Tue	1/9 Sat	1/22 Fri	1/18 Mon	1/17 Sun	1/10 Sun	1/10 Sun	1/18 Mon	1/22 Fri	1/24 Sun	1/26 Tue
MELL SEMBAWANG	025E	1/23 Sat	1/21 Thu	1/21 Thu	1/19 Tue	1/16 Sat	1/29 Fri	1/25 Mon	1/24 Sun	1/17 Sun	1/17 Sun	1/25 Mon	1/29 Fri	1/31 Sun	2/2 Tue
MELL SERAPONG	004E	1/30 Sat	1/28 Thu	1/28 Thu	1/26 Tue	1/23 Sat	2/5 Fri	2/1 Mon	1/31 Sun	1/24 Sun	1/24 Sun	2/1 Mon	2/5 Fri	2/7 Sun	2/9 Tue
MELL SENTOSA	033E	2/6 Sat	2/4 Thu	2/4 Thu	2/2 Tue	1/30 Sat	2/12 Fri	2/8 Mon	2/7 Sun	1/31 Sun	1/31 Sun	2/8 Mon	2/12 Fri	2/14 Sun	2/16 Tue
MELL SEMBAWANG	026E	2/13 Sat	2/11 Thu	2/11 Thu	2/9 Tue	2/6 Sat	2/19 Fri	2/15 Mon	2/14 Sun	2/7 Sun	2/7 Sun	2/15 Mon	2/19 Fri	2/21 Sun	2/23 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETD Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
MELL SERAPONG	003E	1/23 Sat	1/24 Sun	1/24 Sun	1/26 Mon	1/27 Wed	1/29 Fri	1/31 Sun	SKIP	2/5 Fri	2/6 Sat	2/11 Thu	3/2 Tue	2/14 Sun	2/10 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	032E	1/30 Sat	1/31 Sun	1/31 Sun	SKIP	2/3 Wed	2/5 Fri	2/7 Sun	SKIP	2/12 Fri	2/13 Sat	2/18 Thu	3/9 Tue	2/21 Sun	2/17 Wed
MELL SEMBAWANG	025E	2/6 Sat	2/7 Sun	2/7 Sun	2/9 Mon	2/10 Wed	2/12 Fri	2/14 Sun	SKIP	2/19 Fri	2/20 Sat	2/25 Thu	3/16 Tue	2/28 Sun	2/24 Wed
MELL SERAPONG	004E	2/13 Sat	2/14 Sun	2/14 Sun	SKIP	2/17 Wed	2/19 Fri	2/21 Sun	SKIP	2/26 Fri	2/27 Sat	3/4 Thu	3/23 Tue	3/7 Sun	3/3 Wed
MELL SENTOSA	033E	2/20 Sat	2/21 Sun	2/21 Sun	2/23 Tue	2/24 Wed	2/26 Fri	2/28 Sun	SKIP	3/5 Fri	3/6 Sat	3/11 Thu	3/30 Tue	3/14 Sun	3/10 Wed
MELL SEMBAWANG	026E	2/27 Sat	2/28 Sun	2/28 Sun	SKIP	3/3 Wed	3/5 Fri	3/7 Sun	SKIP	3/12 Fri	3/13 Sat	3/18 Thu	4/6 Tue	3/21 Sun	3/17 Wed

Weekly service. More frequent. More dependable.

Website: www.mariana-express.com

Exclusive General Agent of MELL

For bookings, you may call our Saipan agent:

CTSI LOGISTICS,
CTSI Building, Lower Base,
P.O. Box 501937,
Saipan MP 96950
Website: www.ctsi-logistics.com

Edgar T. Garcia
Inbound
Direct line (670) 236-2422

Jaime P. Salazar
Outbound
Direct line (670) 236-2410

Leslie F. Rodriguez
Sales and Marketing
Direct line (670) 236-2402

CTSI Logistics
Moving the world

Business

STOCK Portfolio

ASIAN MARKETS

AUSTRALIA
4,900.40
Down 35.70
(-0.72%)

HONG KONG
21,347.70
Down 112.31
(-0.52%)

JAKARTA
2,655.17
Up 12.63
(0.48%)

TOKYO
10,841.67
Down 13.41
(-0.12%)

K. LUMPUR
1,300.24
Up 2.25
(0.17%)

MANILA
3,083.25
Down 23.05
(-0.74%)

SINGAPORE
2,909.48
Down 2.54
(-0.09%)

SEOUL
1,712.22
Up 0.44
(0.03%)

BANGKOK
748.74
Up 1.85
(0.25%)

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW
10,609.65
-100.90

NASDAQ
2,287.99
-28.75

S&P
1,136.03
-12.43

MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar	1.0819
British Pound	0.6094
Canadian Dollar	1.0268
Chinese Renminbi	6.8268
Euro	0.6949
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7642
Indian Rupee	45.5750
Indonesian Rupiah	9,226.0000
Japanese Yen	99.4800
Malaysian Ringgit	3.3348
New Zealand Dollar	1.3538
Philippine Peso	45.8600
Singapore Dollar	1.3882
South Korean Won	1,124.1000
Swiss Franc	1.0249
Taiwan Dollar	31.7750
Thailand Baht	32.81

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

Japan Airlines bankruptcy filing expected Tuesday

TOKYO (AP)—Japan Airlines is set to file for bankruptcy Tuesday, writing Japanese history as one of the nation's biggest corporate failures from which it could emerge a leaner, self-sustaining carrier.

The country's flagship carrier, called JAL for short, will likely convene a special board meeting in the afternoon before filing for protection from creditors under the Corporate Rehabilitation Law—Japan's version of Chapter 11, according to Kyodo News agency. The filing will be followed by a restructuring plan crafted by a government-backed corporate turnaround body.

President Haruka Nishimatsu is expected to resign. Leadership of the company will be handed over to Kazuo Inamori, a buddhist monk and founder of electronic components behemoth Kyocera Corp. and Japan's No. 2 mobile carrier KDDI Corp.

The government will also offer assurances that it backs the rehabilitation and intends to keep JAL flying.

"The government wants to continue to support JAL to ensure its continued stable and safe operations," said transport minister Seiji Maehara hours before the expected filing.

The day's events culminate a process that began in October when JAL—saddled with debts of 1.5 trillion yen ($16.5 billion)—first turned to the Enterprise Turnaround Initiative Corp. for help. Under a prepackaged restructuring strategy, it will embark on a massive overhaul to shed the fat and inefficiency that hobbled Asia's biggest airline.

Geoffrey Tudor, a principal analyst at Japan Aviation Management Research and former JAL employee, said the airline needs to be leaner and meaner.

"It wasn't commercially brutal enough in dealing with the facts of economic life," said Tudor, who spent 38 years at the Japanese carrier and now watches its collapse with a mixture of sadness and frustration.

The plan calls for about 15,600 job cuts, or a third of JAL's work force, by March 2013 and will require the airline to halve the number of its subsidiaries which span everything from hotels to credit cards, according to Kyodo. The Enterprise Turnaround Initiative Corp. will invest about 300 billion yen ($3.3 billion) in the carrier, and JAL's main lenders have been asked to waive about 350 billion yen in liabilities.

AP

A worker signals to others as a Japan Airlines jet taxies past a construction site at Haneda Airport in Tokyo, Japan, Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010.

American Airlines raises checked bag fees

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—American Airlines said Monday it is raising its fees on checked bags for passengers buying tickets starting Feb. 1.

The company said it is raising the charge for the first checked bag to $25 from $20 on flights in the U.S., Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands. The fees apply to passengers on the company's American Airlines, American Eagle and American Connection flights.

A second checked bag will cost $35, up from $30.

American Airlines last hiked its checked bag fees in July, when the price of the first bag rose $5 to $20 and the price of the second bag rose the same amount to $25.

Select passengers, including first- and business-class travelers and members of the armed services, will remain exempt from checked bag fees.

Airlines began instituting checked bag fees in 2008 to help offset soaring fuel costs. They have largely kept the fees in place, even though prices have fallen.

American Airlines said about 25 percent of domestic customers pay checked bag fees.

IMF chief: global recovery stronger than expected

TOKYO (AP)—The head of the IMF said China and other developing Asian economies are leading a global recovery that is faster and stronger than expected, but warned that money rushing into emerging markets could lead to asset bubbles.

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the managing director of the International Monetary Fund, strongly suggested Monday that the IMF would raise its 2010 global growth forecast from the 3.1 percent it projected in October.

Strauss-Kahn

China, India and other emerging Asian economies were close to returning to their pre-crisis growth rates, while rebounds in the U.S., Japan and other advanced economies remained "sluggish," he said.

"The forecasts we're going to release in a couple of days will show that this recovery is going faster and stronger than we expected" several months ago, Strauss-Kahn told reporters in Tokyo.

While the IMF doesn't forecast a "double-dip," or second recession, risks remain, he said. "We have to very cautious because this recovery remains very fragile."

While hundreds of billions in stimulus spending by governments around the world avoided another Great Depression, he said, the most important risk facing the global economy is deciding how and when to reverse those polices and deal with resulting debt burdens.

"Now we have to fix the consequences of the policy that has been put in place to fight against the crisis," he said. "Finding the right time to implement exit policies is really a difficult one."

"If you exit too late, you waste resources," he said. "If you exit too early, you have a risk of going back into recession."

The best indicators for timing fresh growth strategies are monitoring private demand and employment, he said. The IMF recommends that governments devise policies that will support the labor market given still-high joblessness, which could lead to social unrest in some countries.

A key lesson from the global financial crisis is that authorities need to beef up supervision—more so than regulations—of financial institutions, he said.

What's in a cigarette? FDA to study ingredients

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—The Food and Drug Administration is working to lift the smokescreen clouding the ingredients used in cigarettes and other tobacco products.

In June, tobacco companies must tell the FDA their formulas for the first time, just as drugmakers have for decades. Manufacturers also will have to turn over any studies they've done on the effects of the ingredients.

It's an early step for an agency just starting to flex muscles granted by a new law that took effect last June that gives it broad power to regulate tobacco far beyond the warnings now on packs, short of banning it outright.

Companies have long acknowledged using cocoa, coffee, menthol and other additives to make tobacco taste better. The new information will help the FDA determine which ingredients might also make tobacco more harmful or addictive. It will also use the data to develop standards for tobacco products and could ban some ingredients or combinations.

"Tobacco products today are really the only human-consumed product that we don't know what's in them," Lawrence R. Deyton, the director of the Food and Drug Administration's new Center for Tobacco Products and a physician, told The Associated Press in a recent interview.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Kraft nears deadline to raise Cadbury offer

LONDON (AP)—Shareholders in British candy maker Cadbury PLC are looking for a fat increase in the hostile takeover bid by Kraft Foods Inc., as Kraft faces a Tuesday deadline for changes to its bid. Cadbury shares moved above 800 pence in Monday trading, indicating the market was looking for Kraft to jump to that level or higher. Kraft's 10.5 billion pounds ($17.1 billion) offer now values the British chocolate and gum company at about 770 pence, an offer which Cadbury dismisses as "derisory." The Wall Street Journal reported late Monday that Kraft was closing in on a deal to buy Cadbury for as much as $19 billion. The newspaper cited people it do not identify that it said are familiar with the deal. It said the companies were in talks that could lead to a friendly deal announcement Tuesday morning.

Oil rises above $78 in Asia on bargain hunting

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Oil prices rose above $78 a barrel Tuesday in Asia, spurred by bargain hunting amid a weaker dollar and after gains in European shares. Benchmark crude for February delivery was up 35 cents to $78.35 a barrel in electronic trading at early afternoon Kuala Lumpur time on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Monday, the contract fell to as low as $77.07 before settling at $78 in European trade. The U.S. markets were closed Monday for the Martin Luther King public holiday. "A combination of investors looking at prices approaching $77 as a buy opportunity and positive European equities performance have caused a turnaround in oil," said Victor Shum, energy analyst with consultancy Purvin & Gertz in Singapore.

Universal Studios resort in SKorea to open in 2014

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Developers of a Universal Studios theme park and resort in South Korea said Tuesday the project is slated to open in early 2014 after being delayed by the global financial crisis. Universal Studios Korea Resort, billed as the largest such Universal project in Asia, was originally announced in May 2007 amid hopes it would be up and running in 2012. Kim Moon-soo, governor of Gyeonggi province, where the resort is set to be built, blamed the worldwide financial meltdown for the delay, but said the large-scale project is back on track. Construction is scheduled to commence at the beginning of next year, according to a release.

Nation

Worshippers urged not to 'sanitize' King's legacy

ATLANTA (AP)—A scholar and activist invoked the fiery side of Martin Luther King Jr.'s rhetoric Monday at the civil rights icon's church, urging the audience not to "sanitize" King's legacy or let the president off the hook on issues like poverty.

Across the country, Americans marked what would have been King's 81st birthday with rallies and parades. And days ahead of the anniversary of his historic inauguration, President Barack Obama honored King by serving meals to the needy.

But in the city where the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner was born, it was Princeton University professor Cornel West who reminded listeners that King's message of nonviolence came with a fiery urgency. West delivered a passionate keynote address to hundreds at Ebenezer Baptist Church on the 25th federal observance of King's birthday.

West told the crowd to remember King's call to help others and not enshrine his legacy in "some distant museum." Instead, West offered, King should be remembered as a vital person whose powerful message was once even considered dangerous by the FBI.

AP

Keynote speaker Cornel West gestures as he speaks during the Martin Luther King Jr commemorative service at Ebenezer Baptist Church Monday, Jan. 18, 2010 in Atlanta.

"I don't want to sanitize Martin Luther King Jr.," said West, who teaches in Princeton's Center for African American Studies and is the author of "Race Matters" and 19 other books. "I don't know about you, but I don't even mention his name without shivering and shuddering."

West also told the mostly black audience to hold Obama's administration accountable even as they celebrate his historic presidency. The anniversary of Obama's inauguration as the country's first black president—seen by many blacks as part of the fulfillment of King's dream—is Jan. 20.

"Even with your foot on the brake, there are too many precious brothers and sisters under the bus," West said of Obama. "Where is the talk about poverty? We've got to protect him and respect him, but we've also got to correct him if the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. is going to stay alive."

King's youngest daughter, Bernice King, presided over the ceremony with her aunt, Christine King Farris, the civil rights leader's only living sibling. His other children, Martin Luther King III and Dexter King, did not attend the service at the church where King preached, which was packed to its 2,200-person capacity.

In Washington, D.C., Obama honored King's legacy of helping others serving lunch at a social services organization. Later Monday, Obama discussed the civil rights movement with a group of black elders and their grandchildren. He was later scheduled to speak at a King Day concert at the Kennedy Center.

"How are you sir? God bless you," the president said, greeting one man among the dozens of people who filed into the dining room at SOME, or So Others Might Eat. His daughters and first lady Michelle Obama joined him.

Haitians seeking US refuge will be returned

MIAMI (AP)—U.S. authorities are readying for a potential influx of Haitians seeking to escape their earthquake-wracked nation, even though the policy for migrants remains the same: with few exceptions, they will go back.

So far, fears of a mass migration have yet to materialize. However, conditions in Haiti grow more dire each day and U.S. officials don't want to be caught off guard.

■ ■ ■

ABOARD A U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT (AP)—U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Monday the U.S. forces in Haiti for earthquake relief can defend themselves and innocent Haitians or foreigners if lawlessness boils over.

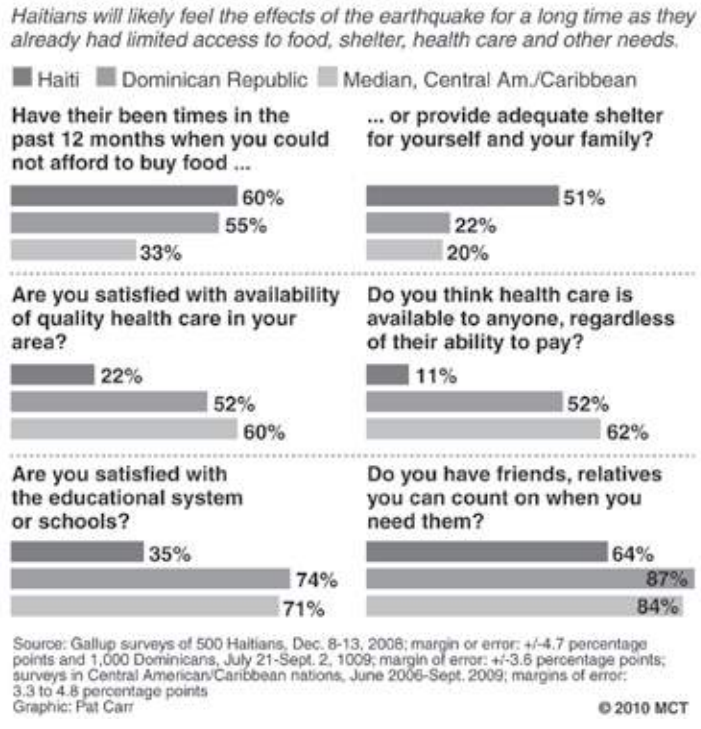
Gates said he does not foresee an expanded policing role for the United States, however. The United States is chiefly involved in distributing relief and will support the United Nations in providing security, Gates said.

"I haven't heard of us playing a policing role at any point," Gates told reporters traveling with him to India for talks on defense cooperation, trade and relations between India and Pakistan.

Gates gave a fuller explanation of the rules under which U.S. troops are operating than the Pentagon previously provided. Gates approved rules of engagement for U.S. forces on shore and aboard nearby ships.

■ ■ ■

Between 250 and 400 immigration detainees are being moved from South Florida's main detention center to clear space for any Haitians who manage to reach U.S. shores, according to the Homeland Security Department. The Navy base at Guantanamo Bay could house migrants temporarily—far from suspected terrorists also being held there—and the Catholic church is working on a plan to accept Haitian orphans.


Vulnerable Haitians
Haitians will likely feel the effects of the earthquake for a long time as they already had limited access to food, shelter, health care and other needs.
Haiti
Dominican Republic
Median, Central Am./Caribbean
Have their been times in the past 12 months when you could not afford to buy food ...
60%
55%
33%
... or provide adequate shelter for yourself and your family?
51%
22%
20%
Are you satisfied with availability of quality health care in your area?
22%
52%
60%
Do you think health care is available to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay?
11%
52%
62%
Are you satisfied with the educational system or schools?
35%
74%
71%
Do you have friends, relatives you can count on when you need them?
64%
87%
84%
Source: Gallup surveys of 500 Haitians, Dec. 8-13, 2008; margin or error: +/-4.7 percentage points and 1,000 Dominicans, July 21-Sept. 2, 1009; margin of error: +/-3.6 percentage points; surveys in Central American/Caribbean nations, June 2006-Sept. 2009; margins of error: 3.3 to 4.8 percentage points
Graphic: Pat Carr
© 2010 MCT

Obama to seek $1.35 billion more for education

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama will ask Congress for $1.35 billion in his 2011 budget proposal to extend an education grant program for states, although the Education Department remains months away from announcing its first round of awards, senior administration officials said.

Obama

Obama was outlining the budget proposal Tuesday at a Fairfax County, Va., elementary school.

The $787 billion economic stimulus program Obama signed into law soon after taking office included $4.3 billion in competitive grants for states, nicknamed the "Race to the Top" fund. States must amend education laws and policies to compete for a share of the money.

More than 30 states were expected to apply by Tuesday's deadline. The first of two rounds of award announcements are expected in April.

Even before that, however, Obama will ask lawmakers for another $1.35 billion so that states not chosen in either award round will have a chance to compete for money, according to the officials, who spoke anonymously Monday because the president had not announced his plans.

The president also wants to use some of the $1.35 billion for a similar competitive grant program among school districts.

With the grant programs, Obama is trying to make federal education spending more of a competitive endeavor to encourage states and school districts to do better, rather than a solely formula-driven effort in which states and districts look forward to receiving a certain amount of money each school year, regardless of how good a job they do educating students.

FDA debates tougher cancer warning on tanning beds

WASHINGTON (AP)—Just as millions head to tanning beds to prepare for spring break, the Food and Drug Administration will be debating how to toughen warnings that those sunlamps pose a cancer risk. Yes, sunburns are particularly dangerous. But there's increasing scientific consensus that there's no such thing as a safe tan, either.

This is a message that Katie Donnar, 18, dismissed until a year ago when, preparing for the Miss Indiana pageant, she discovered a growth on her leg—an early-stage melanoma, the most dangerous form of skin cancer.

She can't prove tanning beds are to blame, but started using them as a sixth-grade cheerleader, says she stepped under the bulbs about every other day during parts of high school, and at one point even owned one. No more.

"It seemed somewhat of a myth that I was putting myself at risk," says Donnar, of Bruceville, Ind., who found the melanoma before it spread.

"The warning label was so small, nothing to make me stop and think, 'This is real,' " she said of the tanning bed.

ACROSS THE NATION

Mass. Senate candidates battle to the end

BOSTON (AP)—Nearly one year to the day after President Barack Obama was sworn into office as an agent of change, Massachusetts Senate candidates battled to the wire Monday in an election that threatened his agenda and reflected voters' frustration with the status quo. Democrat Martha Coakley and Republican Scott Brown scoured the state for votes on the eve of the special election to succeed the late Edward M. Kennedy, with the Democrats' 60-vote Senate supermajority at stake. From a distance, the president made one last appeal in a TV ad for Coakley, his words reflecting how much was on the line for Democrats in the face of a surprisingly strong challenge by Republican Scott Brown in a state that hasn't elected a Republican senator since 1972.

Man questioned after 5 found dead in Texas home

BELLVILLE, Texas (AP)—Authorities working to determine what spurred a flurry of gunshots that left five people dead in southeast Texas are questioning a 20-year-old relative who lived with the victims in the isolated house surrounded by pasture land. Police said Monday the victims of the weekend bloodshed all lived in the single-story brick home in Bellville, a town of about 4,000 people located 55 miles northwest of Houston. They included a retiree and his wife, a younger woman and man, and a girl believed to be about 3 years old, police said. Investigators were questioning a 20-year-old man, who a relative said is a son of the wife. He remained jailed on burglary and attempted burglary charges after allegedly trying to break into a Bellville home.

Rapes of elderly women terrify central Texas towns

YOAKUM, Texas (AP)—With a serial rapist on the loose, Cassandra McGinty has developed a new routine when she arrives home: search room to room, a handgun or stun gun drawn. The predator has been assaulting older women in central Texas over the past year, terrifying residents and frustrating investigators who have only a vague description of the suspect. Pepper spray has been flying off the shelves in the towns where the attacks have occurred, and McGinty said her landlord in Marquez handed out stun guns as Christmas gifts. Nearly 200 miles away in Yoakum, elderly volunteers at the local museum have been locking its doors during business hours.

Asia

US, Japan mark 50 years since security pact signed

TOKYO (AP)—Japan and the U.S. marked the 50th anniversary of the signing of their security pact Tuesday even as a dispute over plans to move a U.S. Marine base on the southern island of Okinawa strains ties between the two major trading partners.

Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama said in a statement that the treaty, which obligates the U.S. to respond to attacks on Japan, "has contributed not just to the security of this country, but also to the stability and prosperity of the Asian-Pacific region."

The treaty was signed in Washington on Jan. 19, 1960, and came into effect on June 23 of that year after the treaty was approved by the Japanese parliament—amid a fair amount of public opposition at the time that has since largely faded.

Under the pact, some 47,000 U.S. troops are stationed in Japan, more than half on the southern island of Okinawa, where local residents have complained for years about noise, pollution and crime around the bases.

Washington and Tokyo agreed in 2006 to reorganize U.S. troops in Japan, including moving 8,000 Marines to the U.S. territory of Guam, as a way to lighten the burden on Okinawa. Part of that plan involves relocating U.S. Marine airfield Futenma to the northern part of the island where it less congested.

But Hatoyama's government—which came to power in September after trouncing the long-ruling and staunchly pro-U.S. conservatives in general elections—has balked at moving Futenma to the designated location. Some Cabinet members say they want it moved off Japanese territory entirely, which is the sentiment of many local residents.

Extreme cold affects millions in northwest China

BEIJING (AP)—Closed roads and delayed flights left thousands of travelers stranded Tuesday following blizzards and extreme cold that killed four people and affected 1.6 million others in northwestern China, a government spokesman said.

Snowstorms delayed 122 flights in Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang region, on Monday, leaving more than 4,000 passengers stranded, and blocked roads from nine avalanches stranded more than 1,000 passengers in the region, according to a Urumqi government spokesman surnamed Wang. Like many Chinese officials he declined to give his full name.

Four people had died because of the bad weather, Wang said Tuesday. He did not give details.

Rescue workers were evacuating thousands of rural residents to safer ground at lower altitudes because of the latest storm front, expected to last through Wednesday and plunge temperatures to minus 45 degrees (minus 43 Celsius), Wang said.

In neighboring Mongolia, an official appealed for help from the international community as his country battles the most severe winter it has seen in three decades.

Storms in China's far western Xinjiang flattened or damaged about 100,000 homes, and more than 15,000 head of livestock were killed by the cold front that began on Sunday night, according to Xinjiang Meteorological Station forecaster Wei Rongqing.

Taliban attacks paralyze Afghan capital for hours

KABUL (AP)—Taliban militants wearing explosive vests launched a brazen daylight assault Monday on the center of Kabul, with suicide bombings and gunbattles near the presidential palace and other government buildings that paralyzed the city for hours.

Afghan forces along with NATO advisers managed to restore order after nearly five hours of fighting as explosions and machine gunfire echoed across the mountain-rimmed city, sending terrified Afghans racing for cover. Twelve people were killed, including seven attackers, officials said.

The assault by a handful of determined militants dramatized the vulnerability of the Afghan capital, undermining public confidence in President Hamid Karzai's government and its U.S.-led allies.

The attacks also suggested that the mostly rural Taliban are prepared to strike at the heart of the Afghan state—even as the United States and its international partners are rushing 37,000 reinforcements to join the eight-year war.

"We are so concerned, so disappointed about the security in the capital," said Mohammad Hussain, a 25-year-old shopkeeper who witnessed the fighting. "Tens of thousands of U.S. and NATO troops are being sent to Afghanistan, yet security in the capital is deteriorating."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Malaysia says US wrong to warn of Borneo threat

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia's government has urged the United States to review what it called a misleading travel advisory warning of possible attacks on foreigners on Borneo island. The U.S. warned its citizens last week that criminal and terrorist groups could be plotting attacks in Malaysia's eastern Sabah state in Borneo. The alert urged Americans to "avoid or use extreme caution" especially when traveling to remote island resorts in Sabah. A Malaysian Foreign Ministry official met with the U.S. ambassador to the country, James R. Keith, on Monday to emphasize that the security in Sabah was "not as perceived" in the advisory, the ministry said in a statement.

2 Koreas hold talks despite North's threats

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North and South Korea opened talks Tuesday on further developing their joint industrial complex in the North despite Pyongyang's recent threat to break off all dialogue and negotiations, an official said. Following reports of a South Korean contingency plan to handle any unrest in the isolated North, Pyongyang threatened last week to launch a "sacred nationwide retaliatory battle" and vowed to cease all communication with the South. Still, the two sides were meeting in the North's border city of Kaesong, Unification Ministry spokeswoman Lee Jong-joo said. She had no other details.

RP Press Secretary Remonde dies at 51

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine Press Secretary Cerge Remonde, a staunch defender of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, died Tuesday following a heart attack, officials said. He was 51. Remonde was found unconscious and "slumped inside the bathroom" of his home and was rushed to the Makati Medical Center where doctors failed to revive him, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said. Remonde wasn't breathing and had no pulse and heart beat when he was brought into the emergency room, hospital spokesman Dr. Eric Nubla said. Attempts to resuscitate him failed. There was no immediate comment from Arroyo.

World

Help steps up; so does scale of Haiti tragedy

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—The staggering scope of Haiti's nightmare came into sharper focus Monday as authorities estimated 200,000 dead and 1.5 million homeless in the quake-ravaged heart of this tragic land, where injured survivors still died in the streets, doctors pleaded for help and looters slashed at one another in the rubble.

The world pledged more money, food, medicine and police. Some 2,000 U.S. Marines steamed into nearby waters. And ex-president Bill Clinton, special U.N. envoy, flew in to offer support. Six days after the earthquake struck, search teams still pulled buried survivors from the ruins.

But hour by hour the unmet needs of hundreds of thousands grew.

Overwhelmed surgeons appealed for anesthetics, scalpels, saws for cutting off crushed limbs. Uncounted thousands of survivors sought to cram onto buses headed out of town. In downtown streets, others begged for basics.

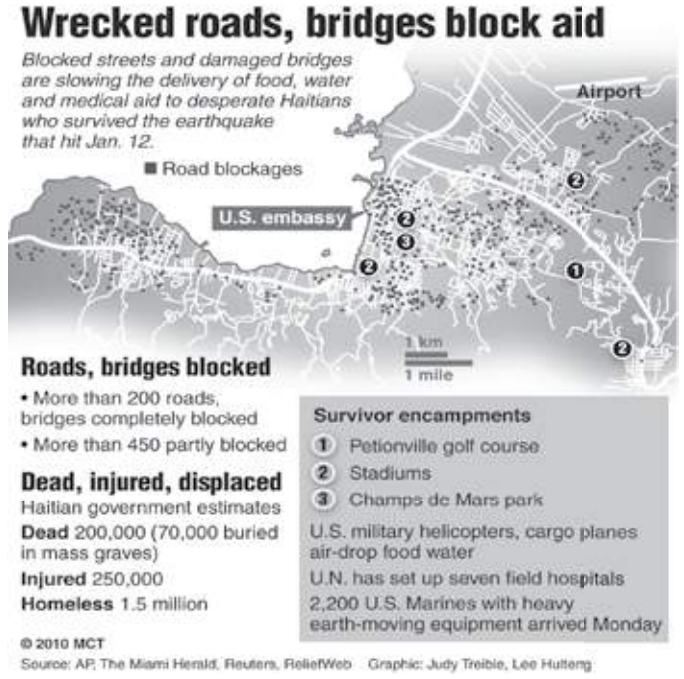
"Have we been abandoned? Where is the food?" shouted one man, Jean Michel Jeantet.

The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) said it expected to boost operations from feeding 67,000 people on Sunday to 97,000 on Monday. But it needs 100 million prepared meals over the next 30 days, and it appealed for more government donations.

"I know that aid cannot come soon enough," U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in New York after returning from Haiti.

"Unplug the bottlenecks," he urged.

In one step to reassure frustrated aid groups, the U.S. military agreed to give aid deliveries priority over military flights at the now-U.S.-run airport here, the WFP announced in Rome. The Americans' handling of civilian flights had angered some humanitarian officials.


Wrecked roads, bridges block aid
Blocked streets and damaged bridges are slowing the delivery of food, water and medical aid to desperate Haitians who survived the earthquake that hit Jan. 12.
Road blockages
Airport
U.S. embassy
1 km
1 mile
Roads, bridges blocked
• More than 200 roads, bridges completely blocked
• More than 450 partly blocked
Dead, injured, displaced
Haitian government estimates
Dead 200,000 (70,000 buried in mass graves)
Injured 250,000
Homeless 1.5 million
Survivor encampments
1 Petionville golf course
2 Stadiums
3 Champs de Mars park
U.S. military helicopters, cargo planes air-drop food water
U.N. has set up seven field hospitals
2,200 U.S. Marines with heavy earth-moving equipment arrived Monday
© 2010 MCT
Source: AP, The Miami Herald, Reuters, ReliefWeb Graphic: Judy Treible, Lee Hutteng

Gang members in Haitian slum profit from disaster

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—"If you don't kill the criminals, they will all come back," a Haitian police officer shouts over a loudspeaker in the country's most notorious slum, imploring citizens to take justice into their own hands.

The call for vigilantes comes as influential gang leaders who escaped from a heavily damaged prison during the country's killer earthquake are taking advantage of a void left by police and peacekeepers focused on disaster relief.

In the sprawling Cite Soleil slum, gangsters are settling into the haunts they dominated before being locked up and resuming struggles for control that never really ended once they were inside the walls of the city's notorious main penitentiary.

"The trouble is starting," said Jean-Semaine Delice, a 51-year-old father from Cite Soleil. "People are starting to leave their homes to go to others."

As police urged residents to fight criminals themselves, Delice said, "I think it's a message we should listen to."

WORLD BRIEFS

Pope John Paul II gunman released from prison

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—The Turkish man who shot Pope John Paul II nearly 29 years ago emerged from prison Monday, declared himself a messenger from God, then spent his first night of freedom in a luxury hotel room. Mehmet Ali Agca, 52, said he would talk to the media in the next few days. But it seemed doubtful that his comments would clear up uncertainty over whether he acted alone or had the backing of communist agents, as he once claimed. He has issued contradictory statements over the years and there are questions about his mental health. Agca shot John Paul on May 13, 1981, as the pope rode in an open car in St. Peter's Square. The pontiff was hit in the abdomen, left hand and right arm. John Paul met with Agca in Italy's Rebibbia prison in 1983 and forgave him.

Gunmen in northwestern Iran assassinate prosecutor

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iranian state media say gunmen have fatally shoot a local prosecutor outside his home in northwestern Iran. The state television on Tuesday identified the prosecutor as Vali Hajgholizadeh. It says two attackers opened fire at him outside his building late Monday in the town of Khoy, about 470 miles, or 780 kilometers, northwest of the capital, Tehran. The report says the prosecutor died later of his wounds in a hospital. The area is close to the Turkish border and has seen occasional clashes between security forces and separatist Kurdish groups.

Storms in Mideast kill British tourist, 6 others

CAIRO (AP)—Rare torrential rains across the Middle East swept away homes, marooned resort towns and killed seven people Monday, including a British tourist, in what officials are calling the worst flooding in at least a decade. The flooding along Egypt's Red Sea coast, the border with Israel and in the south left six people dead. It also damaged the roads leading to the resorts in the Sinai desert and brought down telephone and power lines. Israel temporarily closed its southern border crossings with Egypt and Jordan, while Jordanians were warned off the streets after nearly a dozen accidents in one area.

Campus Life

Poor schooling slows anti-terrorism effort in Pakistan

By GRIFF WITTE
(C) 2010, THE WASHINGTON POST

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan— With a curriculum that glorifies violence in the name of Islam and ignores basic history, science and math, Pakistan's public education system has become a major barrier to U.S. efforts to defeat extremist groups here, U.S. and Pakistani officials say.

Western officials tend to blame Islamic schools, known as madrassas, for their role as feeders to militant groups, but Pakistani education experts say the root of the problem is the public schools in a nation in which half of adults cannot sign their own name. The United States is hoping an infusion of cash—part of a $7.5 billion civilian aid package—will begin to change that, and in the process alter the widespread perception that Washington's only interest in Pakistan is in bolstering its military.

But according to education reform advocates here, any effort to improve the system faces the reality of intense institutional pressure to keep the schools exactly the way they are. They say that for different reasons, the most powerful forces in Pakistan, including the army, the religious establishment and the feudal landlords who dominate civilian politics, have worked against improving an education system that for decades has been in marked decline.

THE WASHINGTON POST

Classes at Pehlvi High School, near Islamabad, are canceled when it rains because the roof leaks badly. With a curriculum that glorifies violence in the name of Islam and ignores basic history, science and math, Pakistan's poorly supported public education system has become a major barrier to U.S. efforts to defeat extremist groups here, officials say.

"If the people get education, the elite would be threatened," said Khadim Hussain, coordinator of the Aryana Institute for Regional Research and Advocacy and a professor at Islamabad's Bahria University. "If they make education available, the security establishment's ideology may be at risk."

That ideology, Hussain said, involves the belief that non-Muslim nations are out to destroy Pakistan and that the army is the only protection Pakistanis have from certain annihilation. Those notions are emphasized at every level in the schools, with students focused on memorizing the names of Pakistan's military heroes and the sayings of the prophet Muhammad, but not learning the basics of algebra or biology, he said.

The nature of the education system is reflected in popular attitudes toward the Taliban, al-Qaida and other Islamic extremist groups that in recent months have carried out dozens of suicide bombings in Pakistan, many of them targeting civilians.

Although the groups in many cases have publicly asserted responsibility for the attacks, a large percentage of the population here refuses to believe that Muslims could be responsible for such horrific crimes, choosing to believe that India, Israel or the United States is behind the violence. When Hussain challenges graduate-level students for proof, they accuse him of being part of the plot, he said.

"Telling students they need to use evidence and logic means that you are definitely an agent of India, Israel and the CIA," he said. "They don't understand what evidence is."

The madrassas have multiplied in Pakistan as public education has deteriorated. But madrassas still educate only about 1.5 million students a year, compared with more than 20 million in public schools. If Pakistan is to improve its dismal literacy rate and provide marketable skills to more of the estimated 90 million Pakistanis under the age of 18, it will have to start in the public schools.

The United States plans to spend $200 million here this year on education, the U.S. Agency for International Development's largest education program worldwide. The money comes from the Kerry-Lugar aid bill passed in late 2009 that promises Pakistan $7.5 billion in civilian assistance over the next five years.

The funds are intended to signal a substantial shift from earlier years, when U.S. assistance to Pakistan was overwhelmingly focused on helping the military, which is battling the Taliban and al-Qaida in the nation's northwest.

U.S. officials say the money will be spent on a combination of programs, including infrastructure improvements, teacher training and updates to the curriculum. Unlike in past years, the money will not be filtered through non-governmental organizations and contractors but will be given directly to Pakistan's government, officials say.

The idea is to improve the capacity of the nation's fledgling civilian-led administration, and to promote trust between the two nations. But there is also the risk that without adequate monitoring, much of the money will go to waste.

Pakistan's current spending on education—less than 3 percent of its budget — is anemic, and far lower on a relative basis than in India or even Bangladesh. Much of it never reaches students.

Pakistan's public education system includes thousands of "ghost schools," which exist on paper and receive state funding. But in reality, the schools do not function: A local landlord gets the money, and either pockets it or dispenses it to individuals who are not teachers but associates or relatives who do nothing to earn their sala-

See POOR on Page 18

Life & Style

"Elvis Presley," by Ralph Wolfe Cowan, has human and otherworldly touches.

THE WASHINGTON POS

National Portrait Gallery gives the King the royal treatment

WASHINGTON—Organized in honor of what would have been Elvis Presley's 75th birthday this month—and the first of several Elvis-themed exhibitions opening at area museums this year—the National Portrait Gallery's "One Life: Echoes of Elvis" is a little party of a show.

It's meant to be fun, in other words. That's according to curator Warren Perry, who supplements the one-room show's seven portraits of Elvis with display cases featuring Elvis-themed books, memorabilia, a handmade scrapbook put together after his death by an anonymous fan and photographs of Graceland by artist William Eggleston.

This is not a show for anyone wondering, "Now about those teen-age girls ... "

It does, however, get at the concept of Elvis as something larger than life. Two of the works in the show are by Howard Finster, the late folk artist known for his pictures of angels and Coca-Cola bottles. In fact, Finster's 1990 portrait "Elvis at Three" depicts the singer, who died in 1977, with white wings. Based on a famous photograph, the artist's other contribution to the show, the 1991 "Elvis in Army Uniform," is almost as iconic a silhouette as a Coke bottle. Its depiction of Elvis reveals not the man, but a distinctly American ideal.

"Elvis, the Artist, and Pink Cadillac" (1988) by folk artist Donald Paterson plays with that same theme, setting Elvis and his signature car against a cityscape featuring a version of the American flag and an apple tree. The closest thing to the dark side of Elvis? Red Grooms' cartoonish 1987 lithograph, in which the gold-lame-suited performer—posing in front of Graceland with guitar and Caddy, naturally—sports a lip curl that is almost as sinister as it is sexy.

THE WASHINGTON POS

In honor of what would have been Elvis Presley's 75th birthday this month, the National Portrait Gallery in Washington presents a little party of a show. "Elvis at Three," by Howard Finster, is overt in depicting the King as no mere mortal.

The show makes one point exceptionally well. "You don't need to be an Elvis fan," says Perry, "to have an Elvis connection." There's a certain intimacy to these portraits of a man whom, for the most part, the artists never met. (Note also that no one ever calls him anything but "Elvis.") And why is that? "I can't say exactly," says Perry, adding that the mystery of our enduring fascination with Elvis is one of many topics that will be addressed in a March symposium on Elvis (see below).

One thing not up for discussion: the pop-cultural phenomenon of the black-velvet Elvis. Although there are no Elvis-on-velvet paintings in the show—a glaring oversight, perhaps—Perry (who himself owns two) is well aware of their appeal, chalking it up to the fact that, to many of us, Elvis is forever frozen, like a bug in amber, in the kitsch of the 1970s. Somehow that combination of velvet and Elvis—"like peanut butter and bananas," Perry says — just stuck in our minds.

Ralph Wolfe Cowan's oil-on-canvas portrait, based on 1969 sketches from the singer's only actual portrait sitting, wraps up this small show best. Its Elvis is both human, clad in blue jeans with a heart-shaped key chain dangling from the pocket, and beatified. A cathedral of pinkish clouds frames its almost Christ-like subject—and Graceland in the distance.

Cowan, as curator Perry notes, is the world's most prolific painter of heads of state, so it makes sense that the King chose to sit for him.

King Cameron redux? 'Avatar' aims for Oscar glory

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—James Cameron may get to proclaim himself king of the distant moon Pandora at the Academy Awards.

Cameron—who borrowed Leonardo DiCaprio's line from "Titanic" and declared himself "king of the world" when that film sailed to Oscar glory 12 years ago—positioned himself for a repeat with his Golden Globe wins Sunday for the sci-fi blockbuster "Avatar."

The tale of big, blue aliens in conflict with rapacious humans on Pandora earned the Globes for best drama and director, prizes that also preceded the Oscar run of "Titanic."

"This is a trip," said Cameron, recalling that as "Titanic" was becoming a box-office and Oscar juggernaut, he had thought to himself, "enjoy this ride, it ain't never going to happen again."

Yet "Avatar" has soared to a worldwide box office of $1.6 billion, second only to "Titanic" at $1.8 billion, and could end up surpassing his 1997 smash about the doomed luxury liner.

A key difference for Cameron's success this awards season is that he's doing it with a space fantasy, the sort of far-out tale that usually goes overlooked except for visual effects and other technical honors during Hollywood's prestige period.

"Hopefully, this is part of a trend of the acceptance of science fiction as a legitimate dramatic form of cinema," said Cameron, whose films include the sci-fi tales "Aliens," "The Abyss" and the first two "Terminator" movies.

AP

From left, Sam Worthington, director James Cameron, Zoe Saldana, producer Jon Landau, and Sigourney Weaver pose with the award for best motion picture drama for "Avatar" backstage at the 67th Annual Golden Globe Awards on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Globe acting winners also firmed up their Oscar prospects, including dramatic-performance recipients Sandra Bullock for the football tale "The Blind Side" and Jeff Bridges for the country-music story "Crazy Heart."

The musical or comedy acting prizes went to Robert Downey Jr. for the crime romp "Sherlock Holmes" and Meryl Streep for the Julia Child tale "Julie & Julia." Supporting honors were presented to Mo'Nique for the Harlem drama "Precious: Based on the Novel `Push' By Sapphire" and Christoph Waltz for the World War II saga "Inglourious Basterds."

Like "Avatar," "Titanic" was a visual marvel, but it was an epic period drama, too, the kind of movie awards voters have embraced since the early days of the Oscars.

Peter Jackson achieved rare awards acceptance for fantasy adventures with his "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, though those films had a long and distinguished literary pedigree in the works of J.R.R. Tolkien.

Cameron made everything up himself for "Avatar," a 22nd century story of interspecies romance set on Pandora, where intrusive humans are mining a priceless energy source, steam-rolling over the world's natives to do it.

Pandora's inhabitants, the 10-foot, blue-skinned Na'vi, fight back with help from a paralyzed human (Sam Worthington), whose mind is transferred to an "avatar" resembling the natives. In something of a "Dances With Avatars" story, he finds a mentor and romantic interest in a fierce Na'vi princess (Zoe Saldana).

"Thank you for believing in blue people," "Avatar" producer Jon Landau told the Globes crowd.

Assuming "Avatar" earns a best-picture nomination for the Oscars, it will have more company than usual. Oscars organizers have doubled the best-picture category to 10 nominees, aiming to bring a broader range of movies into the fold.

The Oscars often are dominated by small and sober dramas, but this time, blockbusters could hold sway in the top category. Along with "Avatar," potential nominees include two other sci-fi smashes, "Star Trek" and "District 9," the hit "Inglourious Basterds," and the animated blockbuster "Up."

Cameron said he was aiming only for a crowd-pleasing commercial success this time, not another awards contender.

"We have been down that road. It is a nightmare. You have to wear a tux all the time, and here we are again," Cameron said. "What the hell did we do?"

Maybe expand his Oscar kingdom to the cosmos.

AP

In this image released by NBC, host Ricky Gervais is shown on stage during the 67th Annual Golden Globe Awards held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Golden Globes shines with TV audience boost

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC's Golden Globes broadcast shined a little brighter in the ratings this year, according to Nielsen numbers released Monday.

"The 67th Annual Golden Globe Awards" had 14 percent more viewers than last year's show. The three-hour shindig won its time slot and drew 16.9 million viewers, beating an audience of 14.9 million viewers in 2009.

Originating from Los Angeles at 5 p.m. local time, the event was aired live by NBC in all time zones, rather than delayed for prime-time broadcast in the West, as in past years.

But even with the audience upswing, viewership remained far below the biggest year for the show. In 2004, 26.8 million viewers tuned in.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association bestows the awards for achievements in television and motion pictures.

Two years ago, the awards were slammed by the Hollywood writers strike, which left the broadcast a shell of itself: a laundry list of the winners read aloud, devoid of glitz, celebrities or ceremony. Only 6 million viewers bothered to watch.

Sunday's show got a mixed reaction from critics, as did the performance of its first host in 15 years.

"Not a great night for Ricky Gervais," wrote Los Angeles Times TV critic Mary McNamara, citing the British actor-comedian.

But she added that almost every winner (with the exception of multiple "Avatar" honoree James Cameron, who, on stage, was as vocally focused on his over-full bladder as his trophies) displayed "an air of grateful humility."

The modesty that seemed to rule the evening represented a downside for some observers, who love the Globes for its customary boozed-up party mood.

Maybe last week's devastating earthquake in Haiti kept things more sober than usual.

"There were smiles and costly dresses and showy jewelry," wrote The New York Times' Alessandra Stanley, "but the festivities never really got off the ground, perhaps weighed down by an overlay of unease."

Or maybe, for better or worse, the Golden Globes have gone straight.

"Perhaps it's finally time the Golden Globes stops cultivating a reputation as a wild and woolly affair," wrote The Hollywood Reporter's Andrew Wallenstein, who called Sunday's show "leaden even by Oscar standards, weighed down by surprisingly uninspired hosting from Ricky Gervais."

Golden Globe parties full of celebs, booze, rain

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Blasted by DJs at multiple post-Golden Globe Awards parties, Madonna's '80s anthem "Holiday" set an upbeat tone for the night despite rain, economic woes and concern over the earthquake victims in Haiti.

Celebrities flocked to several soirees following the awards ceremony Sunday at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Booze flowed, comfort food was served hot and steaming, and guests boogied until midnight.

"It's time for the good times/ Forget about the bad times, oh yeah," shouted attendees, singing along to "Holiday," at The Weinstein Co. party at Bar 210, formerly Trader Vic's.

Quentin Tarantino playfully swayed to the music, as Diane Kruger, one of the stars of his Globe-nominated World War II drama "Inglourious Basterds," stood nearby.

While the party's red carpet was a swath of sogginess, due to storms sweeping Southern California, the shindig itself was darkly lit and intimate inside. Silver vases of pink orchids decorated tables.

"It ain't rainin' in here!" shouted Tarantino. "I'm going to stay out late. We're going to have a good time. I've had a blast tonight, and the blast continues on. It ain't over yet."

Guests, including Marion Cotillard, Fergie and her hubby Josh Duhamel, feasted on vegetable rolls with peanut sauce, beef skewers and coconut covered crab, and sipped on martinis flavored with apple juice.

"Inglourious Basterds" co-star and horror film director Eli Roth had his own take on partying, including the reason for being unsteady on his feet at 9:20 p.m.

"They didn't feed us at the Golden Globes, and Harvey Weinstein was drinking all the champagne, so it's very difficult," said Roth, pointing mischievously at the famed studio head as he strode by. "By the time the awards were happening, we were really kind of loaded."

Christoph Waltz, who played a ruthless Nazi colonel in the movie, grinned and clutched his supporting-actor Globe trophy for the part as he navigated the crowd, following a stream of friends out of the party.

"We're staying in the building," Waltz joked about which bash to attend next.

AP

Actress Chloe Sevigny at the HBO Golden Globe party in Beverly Hills, Calif. on Sunday Jan. 17, 2010.

At the annual roof party hosted by NBC, Universal Pictures and Focus Features, a DJ spun disco and funk tunes as guests shimmied. Glittering disco balls of varying shapes hung from the ceiling.

The mostly industry crowd chomped on modest fare, from slices of pizza to ravioli, pasta and salad. Director George Lucas obligingly took photos with fans before telling his family, "Let's move on."

Downstairs, HBO's annual bash at Circa 55 restaurant was swamped soon after the awards ceremony ended. Stars from "Big Love" and "Entourage" piled their plates with whitefish, potatoes stuffed with cheese and roasted vegetables. Metal sunburst chandeliers lent a '60s vibe.

This year, the patio's lavish outside pool was covered to make way for more than a dozen tables decorated with beautiful bronze sequin-covered tablecloths. Unfortunately, the rain drove everyone inside.

Jeremy Piven chatted up Globe host Ricky Gervais at a secluded table. Woody Harrelson, wearing a jaunty newsboy cap, ate standing up. Bill Paxton entered the party holding his young daughter's hand.

POOR

From Page 17

ries. School buildings are often used for housing farmworkers or livestock.

Those buildings that do operate lack basic facilities—a 2006 government study found that more than half do not have electricity and 40 percent have no bathrooms. About a third of students drop out by the fifth grade. Teachers, meanwhile, earn as little as $50 a month, less in many cases than that of a domestic servant.

"The social status of teachers is low, compared with other professions," said Rehana Masrur, dean of the education department at Allama Iqbal Open University in Islamabad. "If someone is doing nothing and has no future, people say, `Why doesn't he become a teacher?' "

Top government officials have little incentive to change that, experts here say. Although the vast majority of Pakistanis must choose between the public schools or madrassas for their children, Pakistan's well-to-do can send their kids to private schools, many of which are considered world-class.

Javed Ashraf Qazi, a former Pakistani education minister, said the United States has frittered away much of its assistance budget on poorly defined programs, such as conflict-resolution training, which he said leave no enduring impact. What Pakistan really needs, he said, is a network of vocational training institutes that can prepare students for the workplace.

"What would help is something that is lasting," he said. "The U.S. is spending more money, but spending it in a way that it does not leave any impact."

But Pervez Hoodbhoy, a noted nuclear physicist at Islamabad's Quaid-i-Azam University and a longtime proponent of education reform, said Pakistan needs something more fundamental.

"I don't think it's a matter of money. The more you throw at the system, the faster it leaks out," he said. "There has to be a desire to improve. The U.S. can't create that desire. When Pakistanis feel they need a different kind of education system, that's when it will improve."

Filmmaker: Movie about balloon dad could clear him

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Once Richard Heene admitted in court that he wrongly sent authorities on a wild goose chase across Colorado to save the son he thought was aloft in a runaway balloon, friends and supporters seemed to take off just about as fast as that balloon.

All except for one: Steven C. Barber, a 48-year-old filmmaker who says he still believes Heene really thought his son was in the balloon as it spun wildly through the skies on Oct. 15. He plans to prove it, Barber says, when he releases the documentary "Balloon Boy: Guilty Until Proven Innocent" later this year.

Barber has known Heene for more than 10 years and says he has dozens of hours of film of the backyard inventor pursuing one science project after another. He compiled much of that footage, the filmmaker says, in an effort to help Heene land a TV reality show chronicling his science adventures.

What Heene was trying to do with the balloon, Barber says, was solve the world's traffic problems by creating a cheap, lighter-than-air vehicle that would allow people to float over congested freeways.

Although the idea may sound far-fetched to some, even ridiculous to others, Barber says, Heene is a "mad genius" with a penchant for exploring offbeat scientific theories.

"He's a freakin' genius, a really smart guy—and he's a good guy," Barber, an intense ball of energy, says of Heene as he sits in front of his laptop computer in the breakfast nook of his cluttered beachfront apartment in the heart of Los Angeles' bohemian Venice community.

It is there that Barber is culling through a decade's worth of interviews with Heene, including footage he says he traveled to Colorado to shoot of the balloon before its Oct. 15 launch and footage taken afterward to get Heene's side of the story. He wasn't there on the actual day of the balloon debacle.

He's willing to show only one brief snippet of film, however, taken before the launch, when the balloon was still in pieces on the floor of Heene's Fort Collins, Colo., home and he was explaining how he planned to put it together. Barber said he filmed that segment for one of the many TV show pitches he helped put together for Heene over the years.

"I was out here for years trying to help him get TV shows," he says. "I've gotten him lots of pitches."

AP

In this photo taken on Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2010, Steven Barber, a documentary filmmaker who is making a film on Richard Heene, poses for a photo at his home in Venice, Calif.

Barber declined to show the footage he took after the balloon returned to earth, saying he worries that if any of it is described or Heene is quoted it will only make it harder for him while he's in jail.

Barber, whose previous films include the World War II-era documentary "Return to Tarawa: The Leon Cooper Story," acknowledges he is announcing his plans for "Balloon Boy" just as he is beginning to promote another movie. His documentary, "Unbeaten," on a 267-mile wheelchair race through Alaska, is in theaters in Los Angeles and New York this week in an effort to get consideration for an Oscar at the 2011 Academy Awards.

Although he acknowledges the "Balloon Boy" publicity can't hurt "Unbeaten," Barber says, he's really pursuing the project because he owes it to his friend to try to right a wrong. He adds that he doubts he'll make any money on the venture, claiming investors lost a total of $200,000 on his last two films.

The only documentary filmmakers who profit, he says, are Ken Burns and Michael Moore.

Barber is also adamant that he didn't pay Heene for any of the footage he recorded, either before or after the misadventure. Doing so would violate the terms of Heene's probation and possibly land him in jail for considerably longer than the 90 days he is now doing after pleading guilty to falsely influencing authorities.

Heene sent those authorities racing across Colorado, as millions watched on TV, when he called 911 and said he believed his son was in the balloon.

Barber says he is certain Heene believed what he told authorities was true, and that as Heene himself has said since, he only admitted in court to lying to protect his Japanese-born wife, Mayumi, because he feared she might be deported. She pleaded guilty to a lesser charge.

Authorities still aren't buying that explanation.

"The bottom line is he entered his plea in court and was advised fully by the judge and the evidence was pretty overwhelming," Linda Jensen, a spokeswoman for the district attorney's office, told The Associated Press on Thursday.

Larimer County Sheriff Jim Alderden declined to discuss Heene, saying through a spokeswoman that he was tired of talking about him. Last week, however, he said the evidence was "overwhelming" that Heene and his wife were guilty of concocting the Balloon Boy scenario so Heene could realize his dream of landing a reality TV series.

Heene's phone has been disconnected, a family spokesman couldn't be located and his lawyer declined to discuss the documentary or Heene's guilty plea.

"I'm not his booking agent, I'm not his entertainment lawyer. You'd have to talk to Richard directly on that and he's in the Larimer County Jail," Heene's criminal lawyer, David A. Lane, said this week.

Portrait shows morbid Poe in more flattering terms

BALTIMORE (AP)—Edgar Allan Poe's fertile imagination has endured for more than 150 years—and so has his pale, death-haunted image, with his sunken eyes, a trim mustache and unruly mop of curly hair.

However, scholars say Poe looked far more vigorous, perhaps even dashing, in his earlier years than he does in the well-known series of daguerreotypes taken in the final years of his life.

The more robust Poe is captured in a small watercolor by A.C. Smith, one of just three surviving portraits of the author, which will be shown publicly for the first time Saturday and is expected to fetch tens of thousands of dollars at auction.

Poe sits at a desk with pen and paper in hand, seemingly at the height of his creative powers. His upper lip is clean-shaven, though he sports long, bushy sideburns. And there's the slightest hint of a smile on his face.

"It actually represents Poe as he appeared to his contemporaries—a handsome, sophisticated young man on the rise," said Cliff Krainik, the owner of the portrait and a Poe scholar. "The daguerreotypes show him in his rather dissipated state, where he has gone through the difficulties of his life."

While the portrait has been authenticated, much of its history remains unknown, the details of its creation a mystery that even Poe's famed detective, C. Auguste Dupin, would have trouble unearthing.

This much is certain: Smith was a miniaturist who worked at various times in Philadelphia and Baltimore, cities where Poe also lived, and Poe sat for the watercolor in 1843 or 1844—five or six years before his death.

AP

A portrait of Edgar Allan Poe released Monday, Jan. 18, 2010, by via Cliff Krainik is seen. The small watercolor by A.C. Smith shows Poe sitting at desk with pen and paper in hand.

Smith drew another sketch of Poe around the same time that served as a model for an engraving that was printed in Graham's Magazine in 1845.

It is unclear what Poe thought of the finished watercolor—though he was not fond of Smith's sketch. In 1844, he wrote to James Russell Lowell, "You inquire about my own portrait. It has been done for some time now—but is better as an engraving, than a portrait. It scarcely resembles me at all."

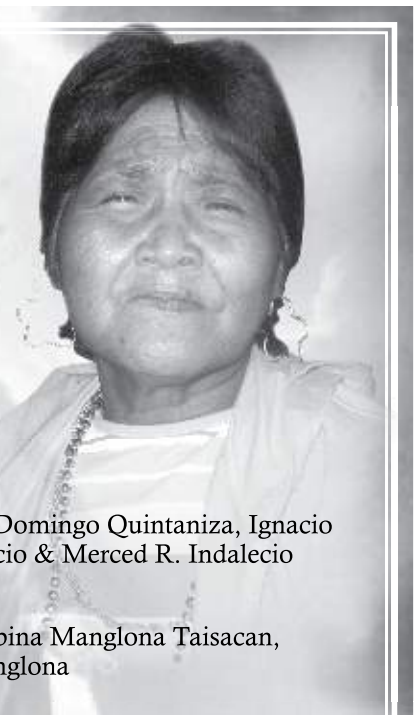
It's unknown who paid the artist, and the painting's whereabouts before 1978 are unknown. That's when Krainik bought the portrait from a collector's vast estate in Charlottesville, Va. He knew immediately that it was Poe and paid only a few dollars for it, he said.

"I knew it was of historic importance," Krainik said. "I didn't think of it like, 'This is a steal.'"

Beyond the watercolor and sketch by Smith, the only other extant portrait is a painting by Samuel Osgood that hangs at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. A portrait by James McDougal is lost.

In Loving Memory of

Martina Hocog Indalecio-Bio



October 19, 1956 – January 12, 2010

She is pre-deceased by:
Mother: Rosa Hocog Indalecio
Father: David Aldan Indalecio

Aunties & Uncles:
Ana Songao Hocog, Lucio Masga Manglona, Domingo Quintaniza, Ignacio Songao Hocog, Jose P. Duenas, Jose A. Indalecio & Merced R. Indalecio

Cousins:
Edward Borja Hocog, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos, Sabina Manglona Taisacan, Luis Hocog Manglona &Raymond Hocog Manglona

She is survived by her:
Husband: Raymond N. Bio
Children: Antonette Rose Indalecio (Raetialynn, Larry Jr., Collen)
David Indalecio/Yunyan (Davan)
Evita Mae Indalecio/Salam (Syed)

Sisters & Brothers:
Carmen I. Ayuyu / Rick Capili (Esco /William Pasana and Children)
Pedro H. Indalecio/Maria P. Castro (Roque, Millianne, Yvanna Raquel)
William/Josephine S. Indalecio (Kimberly, William Jr, Walter & David Jesus)
Anthony/Wilacy O. Indalecio (Valerie, Anthony Wilton)
Maria Jeanette I./ Mario Banca (Antonio/Yahong, Forcina/Jetero & Children)

Mass of intention is been offered at San Antonio Church (Saipan) at 6:00p.m. Nightly rosary is also been offered at her parents resident in San Antonio (Saipan) at 7:00p.m.

For viewing and last respect will be on Saturday, January 23, 2010 at Agat, Guam. The body will be escorted to the family's residence in Agat from 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. The burial mass will be offered at 1:00 pm at Mt. Carmel Church-Guam.

Thank You for your thoughts and prayers, from the family

Patronizing professor needs a lesson in social graces

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I have always been a curious and motivated person. Because of it, I pursued higher education and became a college professor. Most of my siblings have also gone to college. However, their significant others have varying levels of education.

I like to think of myself as a nice person, but my siblings have let me know that when I converse with their partners, I often come across as patronizing. Do these partners need to be less sensitive, or do I need to be more so?

THE GOOD PROFESSOR

DEAR PROF: If only one of your siblings had told you that you often come across as patronizing, I'd say his or her partner might be overly sensitive. However, because more than one has said it, it's time for a self-check. Book smarts are an undeniable asset, but sensitivity to others can be even more important. If you talk down to people, no matter how "smart" you are, eventually they will run away from you.

Do you feel compelled to "correct" those whom you know to have less education than you? Do you speak in polysyllables when a few simple words will do? If the answers to these questions are affirmative, you need to be more socially sensitive when you're with your family—and possibly when you're in the classroom as well.

DEAR ABBY: My parents divorced when my older brother and I were small. Mom remarried, and I was adopted by the wonderful man who raised me as his beloved daughter. I had limited contact with my biological father, "Nate," which seemed to please everyone.

After my adopted dad passed, Nate came back into my life. I have not seen much of him but he was present at my second marriage five years ago, traveling across country to be there.

Last month he called to tell me he has been diagnosed with terminal cancer and has named me as his heir since my older brother is deceased.

As a birthday gift, I presented him with a box from a company that does genome sequencing. It allows people to see their DNA and learn about their ancestry as well as any health-related issues. I enjoyed learning about genetics and thought Nate would, too.

Imagine how stunned I was when I learned that Nate is NOT my father. The company has assured me there is little chance the test is wrong, and they are certain we are not related.

I am close to my mother and horrified that she kept this secret from me for more than 50 years. I don't want anyone to be hurt, but I need the truth. What do I do?

QUESTIONING MY DNA IN S.F.

DEAR QUESTIONING: Have a calm, private conversation with your mother and tell her what you have learned. If she denies it, have the test repeated. When you receive the results, either apologize to your mother or raise the subject again. She may know who your father was, or you may have been the result of an opening shot in the sexual revolution, a chapter your mother may not care to revisit.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Leno anticipates return to 11:30, lauds O'Brien

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jay Leno turned serious on his show to discuss the late-night chaos at NBC, telling viewers that he'd been doubtful about launching a prime-time show but was prevented by NBC from going to another network instead.

Leno, in explaining events from his standpoint, also said Monday that he had told NBC he'd return to the "Tonight" slot only after Conan O'Brien rejected the network's plan to put both men on in late night.

NBC continued negotiations Monday on an exit deal with O'Brien that would clear the way for Leno to reclaim the 11:35 p.m. EST slot occupied by "Tonight," which he hosted for 17 years before turning it over to O'Brien last spring.

The network is ending its prime-time experiment, "The Jay Leno Show," because of low ratings and affiliate station complaints.

When NBC told him they wanted to end his new show, Leno told viewers Monday, he asked to be released from his contract.

"`No, you're still a valuable asset to this company,'" he said the network told him. His reply: "How valuable can I be? You fired me twice."

That was a reference to NBC's decision six years ago to ask him to eventually make way for O'Brien to take over "Tonight," which Leno kept atop the ratings until he left.

He and O'Brien have traded increasingly edgy monologue jokes as NBC tries to extricate itself from its scheduling mess, but Leno told viewers his attitude toward his colleague is unchanged.

"Through all of this, Conan O'Brien has been a gentleman. He's a good guy, I have no animosity toward him. This is all business," Leno said. "You know, folks, if you don't get the ratings, they take you off the air."

AP

In this Aug. 5, 2009 file photo, Jay Leno speaks during the panel for "The Jay Leno Show" at the NBC Universal Television Critics Association summer press tour in Pasadena, Calif.

Neither of them was a ratings winner, he said, either with "The Jay Leno Show" at 10 p.m. EST or O'Brien's "Tonight."

O'Brien did not immediately respond to a request for comment Monday night.

Leno gave his audience a history lesson, or what alternately might have seemed a skillfully timed effort to repair any damage to Leno's trademark heart-of-gold image before the deal is made official, as soon as Tuesday.

In his recitation, Leno opened with an NBC executive telling him in 2004 that he would have to surrender "Tonight" to O'Brien to keep the gangly, redheaded host of "Late Night" from going to a competitor.

"I said, `Well, I've been No. 1 for 12 years.' They said, `We know that. We don't think you can sustain it,'" Leno recounted the executive telling him. He joked that he asked if he could at least wait until his show fell to No. 2, but agreed to the hand-over plan.

"Don't blame Conan O'Brien. Nice guy, good family guy, great guy. He and I have talked, and not a problem since then," Leno said.

He told NBC he would retire "`just to avoid what happened the last time,'" he recounted with a chuckle.

What's happening now at NBC turned out to be reminiscent of the contest between Leno and David Letterman to win "Tonight" after Johnny Carson's retirement and NBC's similar dithering at the time.

With a plan in place for Leno to leave "Tonight" in May 2009, before his NBC contract ended, he would be prevented from starting at another network for at least a year, Leno said. He asked to be freed but NBC refused, instead suggesting that Leno could do well with a prime-time show that the network acknowledged would get "killed" against first-run episodes of shows like CBS' "CSI" but could get traction against summer reruns.

Leno said he agreed, in part, because it would allow him to keep his staff of about 175 people working. But the network's plan for patience was unraveled by affiliates, who said his low ratings were sinking their local late newscasts, which the show precedes.

O'Brien had his own ratings woes, which Leno said—pointedly—started in summer before they could be blamed on Leno's poor prime-time performance.

"Tonight" with O'Brien is drawing about half of the roughly 5 million viewers Leno attracted as its host, although O'Brien has gotten a significant ratings bump since the network flap started.

When NBC suggested a half-hour show, Leno told the network he wasn't crazy about doing it but said OK. He asked if O'Brien would agree to be moved to midnight and was told yes—it was almost guaranteed.

Leno may have been restrained with his comments, but he couldn't resist a hard-edged joke at NBC's expense.

"CBS is now developing a new sitcom about the troubles here at NBC," he said. "It's called `Two Men and a Half-Assed Network.'"

O'Brien let loose on his show Monday, too.

"Last night at the Golden Globes, Julia Roberts said that NBC was in the toilet. NBC was upset and toilets were furious," he said.

Universal Studios resort in SKorea to open in 2014

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Developers of a Universal Studios theme park and resort in South Korea said Tuesday the project is slated to open in early 2014 after being delayed by the global financial crisis.

Universal Studios Korea Resort, billed as the largest such Universal project in Asia, was originally announced in May 2007 amid hopes it would be up and running in 2012.

Kim Moon-soo, governor of Gyeonggi province, where the resort is set to be built, blamed the worldwide financial meltdown for the delay, but said the large-scale project is back on track. Construction is scheduled to commence at the beginning of next year, according to a release.

"Our Universal Studios in Korea is bigger than all the other studios combined," Kim said at a press event, referring to theme parks already operating in Orlando, Florida and Universal City, California in the United States, Osaka, Japan and another slated to open soon in Singapore.

"This will be a remarkable landmark for tourism in Korea," he said.

A total of 15 partners are participating in the development, including South Korean conglomerate Lotte Group and builder Posco E&C. They signed a framework agreement Tuesday to raise capital for the 3 trillion won ($2.7 billion) project expected to attract 15 million visitors a year in South Korea and from abroad.

AP

Universal Parks & Resorts CEO Thomas L. Williams delivers a speech during the Universal Studios Korea Resort "MOA" Signing & Announcement Ceremony in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010.

Developers also expect the project to create at least 40,000 jobs.

The resort is to be built on a site in the city of Hwaseong, located south of Seoul and also close to its main international airport in Incheon. Nearly half of South Korea's population of about 50 million people are said to live within an hour's drive.

Developers have also placed great hope on attracting international visitors from increasingly affluent Asia, particularly nearby China.

Universal Parks & Resorts CEO Thomas L. Williams reiterated that theme Tuesday.

"The number of Asian international tourists is significant and growing," Williams said.

Williams called the success of the project, which he said will include a water park, shopping center, a golf course and renowned American director Steven Spielberg as creative consultant, a "sure thing."

Universal Parks & Resorts is a division of General Electric Co.'s NBC Universal.

Country music hitmaker Carl Smith dies at 82

FRANKLIN, Tenn. (AP)—Carl Smith, a country music hitmaker of the 1950s and 1960s known for his dynamic voice and good looks, has died. He was 82.

Williamson Memorial Funeral Home says Smith died Saturday at his Tennessee home.

Smith had 41 chart singles during the 1950s, including the hits "Are You Teasing Me," "Back Up Buddy," and "Hey Joe!"

He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2003.

Smith was a member of the Grand Ole Opry but left in 1956 to try his hand at acting. He appeared in two westerns, "The Badge of Marshal Brennan" and "Buffalo Gun."

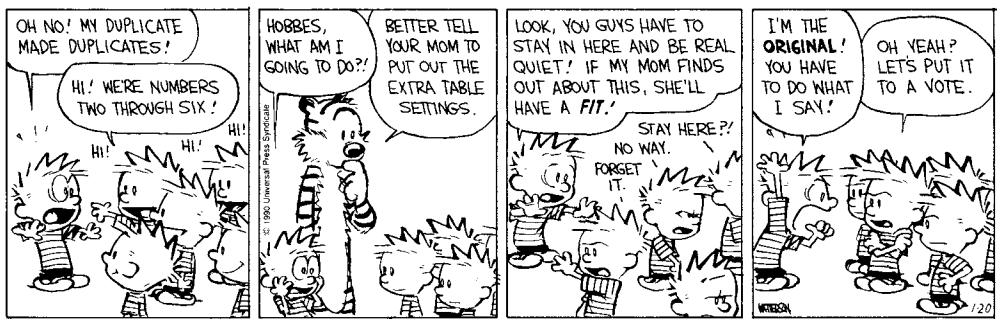
From 1964 to 1969, he hosted 190 episodes of "Carl Smith's Country Music Hall" on Canadian television.

Smith, the father of country artist Carlene Carter, married fellow singer Goldie Hill in 1957. She died in 2005.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


OH NO! MY DUPLICATE MADE DUPLICATES!
HI! WE'RE NUMBERS TWO THROUGH SIX!
HI!
HI!
HI!
HOBBES, WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?!
BETTER TELL YOUR MOM TO PUT OUT THE EXTRA TABLE SETTINGS.
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate
LOOK, YOU GUYS HAVE TO STAY IN HERE AND BE REAL QUIET! IF MY MOM FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS, SHE'LL HAVE A FIT.
STAY HERE?! NO WAY. FORGET IT.
I'M THE ORIGINAL! YOU HAVE TO DO WHAT I SAY!
OH YEAH? LET'S PUT IT TO A VOTE.
WATTERSON
1/20

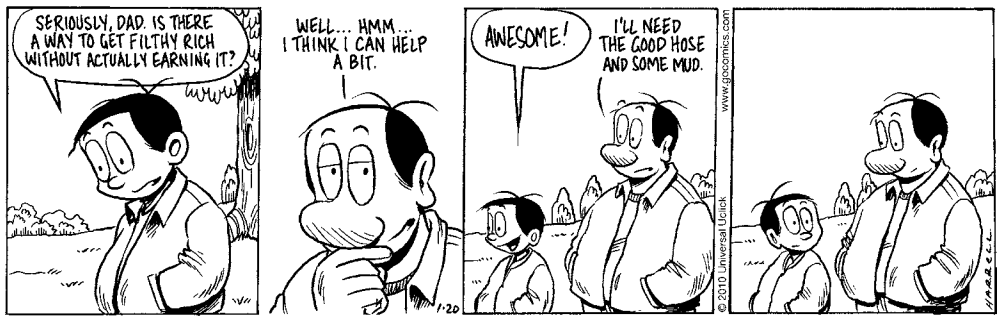
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

YOU KNOW... MY LIFE ISN'T PERFECT...
www.garfield.com
©2010 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
ALL YOU DO IS SLEEP!
...REGARDLESS OF WHAT OTHERS THINK
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
JIM DAVIS 1-20

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SERIOUSLY, DAD. IS THERE A WAY TO GET FILTHY RICH WITHOUT ACTUALLY EARNING IT?
WELL... HMM... I THINK I CAN HELP A BIT.
1-20
AWESOME!
I'LL NEED THE GOOD HOSE AND SOME MUD.
www.gocomics.com
© 2010 Universal Uclick

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

THERE'S A KID AT THE DOOR WHO SAYS HE'LL SHOVEL OUR DRIVEWAY FOR TWENTY BUCKS.
TELL HIM IT'S A DEAL.
© 2010 Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Uclick
WHERE'D YOU GET TWENTY BUCKS?
I'VE BEEN SAVING UP FOR SNOW REMOVAL ALL YEAR.
I CALL IT MY "SLUSH FUND."

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Pretense
4 Sit for a snapshot
8 Sleeping
12 Also
13 Press
14 "Arrivederci"
15 Lummox
16 Triangular Halloween treat
18 Use tweezers
20 Witness
21 Brewery products
24 Despots
28 Measures of luminous intensity
32 Fat
33 Mimic
34 Novelist Ephron
36 Grazing area
37 Anthropologist Margaret
39 Openly
41 Added
43 Martial-arts school
44 Sprite
46 Expand a computer file
50 February 2nd
55 Before
56 Enthusiastic
57 Right on the map?
58 — Francisco
59 Took the bus
60 Fling
61 Potent stick

DOWN
1 Surmounting
2 Brat's stocking stuffer
3 Vegan's protein source
4 Intoxicated
5 "... man — mouse?"
6 Trinity member
7 Tackles' teammates
8 Way in
9 Resume, for short
10 Listener
11 Dress in
17 Nevertheless
19 Scoundrel
22 A util.
23 Dieter's entree
25 "— Lang Syne"
26 Fishing rod attachment
27 Remain
28 Arrived
29 Pinnacle
30 Spruced up
31 China (Pref.)
35 Tweaks
38 Coat with flour
40 Charged bit
42 Every last crumb
45 Poetic measures
47 Vivacity
48 Persia, now
49 Confined, with "up"
50 Gridlock component
51 Past
52 Affirmative action?
53 Long March leader
54 Foolish one

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	T	E	P	■	F	L	A	T	■	T	E	A
I	O	T	A	■	A	I	D	E	■	R	U	B
S	O	C	C	E	R	M	O	M	■	A	R	E
■	■	■	K	N	E	E	■	P	I	C	O	T
C	A	P	E	S	■	■	D	E	S	K	■	■
A	L	O	T	■	R	E	U	S	A	B	L	E
P	A	L	■	S	H	E	E	T	■	A	U	G
T	R	O	U	P	E	R	S	■	A	L	S	O
■	■	S	T	O	A	■	■	H	I	L	T	S
A	S	H	E	N	■	B	A	A	L	■	■	■
L	E	I	■	G	O	L	F	W	I	D	O	W
O	R	R	■	E	V	E	R	■	N	O	D	E
E	A	T	■	D	A	D	O	■	G	O	E	S

Yesterday's answer 1-20

1	2	3	■	4	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12			■	13				■	14			
15			■	16				17				
18			19		■	■	20			■	■	■
■	■	■	21		22	23	■	24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31	■	32			
33			■	34				35	■	36		
37			38	■	39				40			
41				42	■	43				■	■	■
■	■	■	44		45	■	■	46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54		■	55		
56				■	57				■	58		
59				■	60				■	61		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rob Bourdon, 31; Gary Barlow, 39; Stacey Dash, 44; Bill Maher, 54

Happy Birthday: The sky is the limit if you use your resources wisely and you aren't afraid to do things a little differently. Your determination and dedication will far exceed what anyone else offers. By sticking to your game plan, you will show everyone around you that you are the best one for the job. Your numbers are 7, 13, 20, 24, 33, 37, 43

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You have to put more time and effort into enjoying life and less into worrying about the things you cannot change. Love will help give you the strength and courage to surpass the people who have hurt you personally or professionally. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Taking on problems that don't belong to you is pointless. Give more time and effort to your own accomplishments. A personal problem will leave you feeling confused. Make whatever adjustments are necessary. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let someone's change of plans cause you to alter what you intend to do. An offer being made will not be as good as it first appears. Get the lowdown on what's actually expected of you before you make a commitment. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Let everyone know where you stand so you can get matters resolved and move on to bigger and better things. Avoid taking on a burden or responsibility that will cause you to miss out on a chance of a lifetime. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You may be tempted to travel for love or money but, in the end, it will be a waste of your time. Put your time into constructive, professional pursuits. Don't limit the possibilities by making poor choices. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't let your emotions get in the way of what needs to be done. You have plenty of options that can lead to some interesting and fruitful endeavors if you keep a sound mind and realistic outlook. Social networking will pay off. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): An emotional matter will bring to the surface issues that need to be addressed. A romantic relationship can help you determine how you want to handle the personal and professional problems you face and the decisions you need to make. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Look at your situation realistically. If you allow someone you love to talk you into something you aren't ready to do, you will have regrets that will lead to a breakdown of your relationship. Change is needed but must be a positive endeavor. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You won't be able to handle emotional turmoil in a practical manner. Don't let someone coerce you into making a promise you know you will not keep. A partnership you've been considering will determine how much you can do. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): A change will be as good as a rest. Visit an old friend or a destination that brings you great joy and relaxation. You need time to think about how you are going to take care of some of the responsibilities heading your way. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't slip into the same old routine when you can be and do so much more. Look to someone you respect to help you move forward instead of stagnating and making the same mistakes over again. Do what needs to be done. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't let erratic behavior be your downfall. If you are unfair or think you deserve more than everyone else, you will find yourself on a slippery slope, losing your fair share and not getting anything at all. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are engaging, entertaining and full of unique ideas. You are creative, dedicated and true to your beliefs.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2		4				3		
	3		4		1		5	
		7				1		
	5		2		9		7	3
				3				
	6	3	1	5	7	9	8	
		5				6		
		1				2		
			6	8	2			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	8	1	6	7	3	4	9	2
4	7	2	1	5	9	6	8	3
9	3	6	8	2	4	7	1	5
1	4	3	5	8	2	9	7	6
7	5	8	9	4	6	3	2	1
2	6	9	7	3	1	8	5	4
3	9	5	4	1	8	2	6	7
6	2	7	3	9	5	1	4	8
8	1	4	2	6	7	5	3	9

Difficulty Level ★★ 1/19

©2009 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

'THE AMAZING RACE' **Solution: 8 letters**

Y	M	O	N	O	C	E	M	I	T	E	M	I	R	P
T	B	M	T	R	A	T	S	S	E	R	T	S	T	E
I	Y	R	I	N	T	G	N	I	V	I	R	D	R	N
L	A	S	U	L	O	V	I	E	W	E	R	O	O	A
A	D	S	E	C	L	I	H	P	T	A	R	I	P	L
N	N	C	S	L	K	I	T	T	W	I	T	E	S	T
O	U	I	N	O	U	H	O	A	E	A	E	A	S	I
S	S	T	I	S	M	R	E	N	N	T	E	W	A	E
R	K	S	G	S	T	E	T	I	U	I	T	T	P	S
E	S	I	E	E	R	A	T	O	M	T	M	S	A	O
P	A	G	B	H	T	S	R	A	R	E	U	I	A	D
Ⓛ	T	O	T	I	E	C	L	U	E	S	R	R	L	L
Ⓔ	L	L	O	D	K	E	E	P	O	L	E	V	N	E
Ⓖ	I	N	T	E	R	V	I	E	W	O	R	L	D	I
T	S	I	W	T	R	A	V	E	L	O	C	I	T	Y

© 2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com 1/20

Award, Begins, Bruckheimer, Clues, Date, Destination, Driving, Economy, Elimination, Envelope, Globetrotters, Interview, Last, Leg, Logistics, Loss, Male, Million, Orientation, Passport, Penalties, Personality, Phil, Prime-time, Route, Rules, Start, Stress, Sunday, Tasks, Three, Travelocity, Twist, U-turn, Viewer, World, Yield

Yesterday's Answer: Clannish

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just $4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Uclick. Include $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

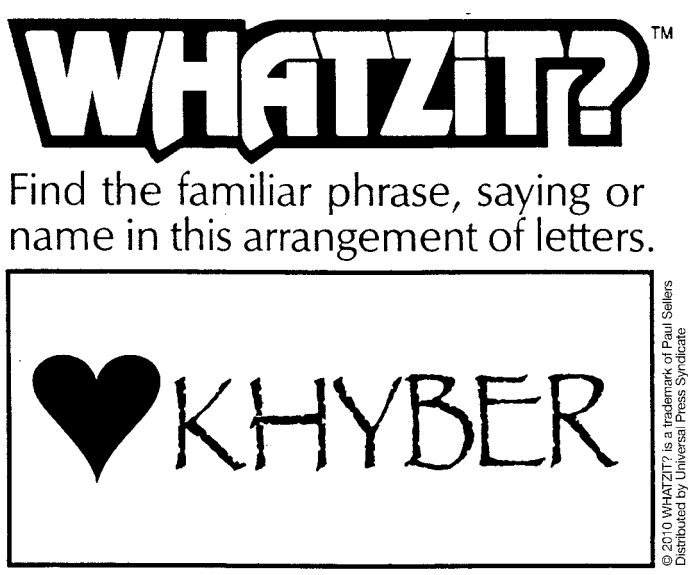
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.


WHATZIT?™
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
KHYBER
© 2010 WHATZIT? is a trademark of Paul Sellers
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

Find today's solution in this section

Paul M. and Josephine R. Lizama
P.O. Box 1491
Rota, MP 96951

Telephone: 532-0550
788-8068

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE GUARDIANSHIP OF	)	FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0026R
J.A.P.R	)	
Minor Child	)	
By:	)	**NOTICE OF HEARING**
PAUL M. LIZAMA and JOSEPHINE R. LIZAMA	)	
Petitioners	)	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on January 29, 2010, at 10:30 a.m., before Associate Judge Perry B. Inos.

Dated this 19th day of January, 2010.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

JCME DISTRIBUTORS

A CNMI LOCAL COMPANY ACTIVE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF CONSUMER AND MEDICAL PRODUCTS IS SEEKING FOR A **"BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE".**

APPLICANT MUST BE SELF-MOTIVATED, RESOURCEFUL, AND EFFICIENT IN ORAL & WRITTEN COMMUNICATION. MUST BE CAPABLE TO WORK INDEPENDENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

SUBMIT RESUME VIA EMAIL OR FAX ATTN: GENERAL MANAGER TO:

E-mail: jcmedist@teleguam.net
Fax no. (670) 235-6336

(Valid Driver's License and Police Clearance Required)

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB10-DEQ-042

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: FEBRUARY 05, 2010 TIME: 10:30A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FIVE (5) COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENT QUALITY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR OF DEQ

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-DOF-040

SUBMISSION: FEBRUARY 05, 2010 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"CNMI GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM UPGRADE PROJECT"

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M., AT THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER, SECRETARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S CONFERENCE ROOM NO. 3 LOCATED IN GARAPAN, SAIPAN. FOR OFF-ISLAND VENDORS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL REQUEST TO finance.edp@cnmiarra.net FOR THE TELECONFERENCE NUMBER. ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL TO finance.edp@cnmiarra.net NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2010.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ ROBERT A. SCHRACK
ACTING SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB10-DFW-047

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: FEBRUARY 05, 2010 TIME: 1:00 P.M.

"JANITORIAL AND YARD MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR DIV. OF FISH & WILDLIFE"

SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ DR. IGNACIO T. DELA CRUZ
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB10-REV-044
Submission/Opening Date: February 5, 2010 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"PRINTING OF THE 2009 ANNUAL FORMS AND SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Division of Revenue and Taxation Office at Dandan Commercial Center. For additional information, please call Frances Ada @ 664-1098 during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

/s/ ROBERT A. SCHRACK
ACTING SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB10-RDFW-046

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: FEBRUARY 05, 2010 TIME: 11:00A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR DIV. OF FISH & WILDLIFE - ROTA BRANCH"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A) - (D).

/s/ DR. IGNACIO T. DELA CRUZ
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP: DPW10-RFP-005
Submission: February 5, 2010 • Time: 2:00 P.M.

"OFFICE SPACE RENTAL ON SAIPAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply in Lower Base during regular working hours.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the proposal if preference is claimed.

/s/ JOSEPH M. INOS, JR.
ACTING SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Oceanview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars preferably, Toyota, Nissan, Mazda, Mitsubishi, Suzuki & Isuzu. Must bee 2000 & above model. We pay cash! Please call 287-7676.

WHATZIT Solution: Heart by-pass

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... $25.00
Call: 233-9889 or 483-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)

MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-10-012

The Office of the Executive Director! Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, is soliciting sealed bids for the construction of **SAIPAN WELL ISOLATION PROJECT**, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A non-refundable payment of **$350.00** is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after **January 11, 2010** at the Water Division Office, CUC, Saipan. A pre-bid Conference for this project is scheduled at **9:00 a.m**., on **January 15, 2010**, at the CUC Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit is scheduled following the pre-bid meeting.

One (1) original and five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-10-012 Construction of Saipan Well Isolation Project"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building P.O . Box 501220, Saipan! MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM local time (CST), Wednesday, January 27, 2010**, at which time they will be publicly open and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a U.S. Treasury listed company. No advance payment will be authorized on the project or an Irrevocable Letter of Credit (100% aggregate contract cost/CUC Beneficiary) or a payment bond. All insurers questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI1s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). A Clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI1s Insurance Code.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less that the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page - http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws including the **Davis Bacon Act.**

This project is funded though a grant from the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)** under the **AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA)**. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval from the USEPA.

This project involves the installation of transmission lines to connect direct feed wells from the different villages into water tank storages to meet all federal safe water standards and requirements.

The proposed project will also include the construction of new transmission lines to connect 3 new wells in the Kagman area. For Kagman well field, the work will include control panel enclosure buildings, controls, perimeter security fencing, exterior perimeter slabs, installation of pumps, construction of properly designed wellheads and connecting the wells in to the existing transmission line.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government.

All technical inquiries should be directed to Capt. Robert Lorenz at telephone number (670) 235-7025 Ext. 148 or Mr. Larry T. Manacop at telephone number (670) 235-7025 Ext. 150 and inquiries regarding procurement should be directed to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr. Procurement & Supply Manager at (670) 235-7025 Ext. 134.

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Assistant Executive Director for Operation

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA
Executive Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Statewide Independent Living Council
"Yes I Can!"

P.O. BOX 501521, SAIPAN, MP 95950: TEL: (670) 322-6538 FAX: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449; E-MAIL: VOC.REHAB@SAIPAN.COM

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the public is advised that the Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY 2010 1st General Membership Meeting on Friday January 29, 2010 at the Chamolinian Room at 9:00am-2:00pm. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Roll Call
II. Adoption of Agenda
III. Adoption of 09-03-09 Minutes
IV. Reports
- Chair
- OVR Director
- CLI Director

V. Old Business
- ARRA Funds

VI. New Business
- Resource Plan
- Election of Officers

VII. Miscellaneous
VIII. Announcements
IX. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537(voice) or 322-6449(TTY). Please contact Magin Iginoef (Council Liaison) two days in advanced for necessary arrangements.

/s/ Kaye Christian
SILC Chairperson

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950
HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
PROMOTIONAL & OPEN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Board of Education, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, that the Public School System (PSS), Human Resources Office shall be applied and administered according to the principles of equal employment opportunity as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Public Law 6 - 10, regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin. Applicants for this position must be a U.S. Citizen or be eligible and authorized to work in the U.S., including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Announcement No: **PSS-2009-092** Application & Employment Type: **Non-Certified**
Position Title: **CIP COORDINATOR (Chief Engineer) Re-Announcement I**
Pay Level/Step: **UNGRADED** Per Annum Salary: **$50,000.00**
Opening Date: **January 12, 2010** Closing Date: **January 27, 2010**
Location: **PSS – ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION**
Benefits: Salary Commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus excellent benefits (including Life Insurance, Retirement Benefits, and Paid Leave/Holidays
Minimum Requirements:
Graduation from a US accredited college or university with a BA degree in Architecture, Civil Engineering, or related field, plus at least five (5) years experience in construction management, architecture, or related field; CNMI License preferred.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY OBTAIN A DETAILED JOB DESCRIPTION WITH QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION FORMS AT THE PSS HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE AT THE 3rd FLOOR RETIREMENT BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE ATTACHED TO COMPLETE APPLICATION FORMS: (1) COPY OF DIPLOMA/DEGREE; (2) TRANSCRIPTS; (3) POLICE CLEARANCE (FROM PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR PAST SIX0 MONTHS); (4) VERIFICATION OF EMPLOYMENT LETTER; (5) RESUME; AND (6) TEACHING CERTIFICATE (IF APPLICABLE).COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE OR MAILED TO: CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, ATTN: HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE, RETIREMENT BUILDING; THIRD FLOOR, P.O. BOX 501370 CK, SAIPAN, MP 96950, and TEL. #. (670) 237-3051, FAX # (670) 664-3707. ALSO VISIT http://www.pss.cnmi.mp/humanresources ON THE WORLDWIDE WEB.

Vacancy Announcement
Assistant Executive Director/Program Officer
Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities

The Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities (Council) is soliciting applications for the position of Assistant Executive Director/Program Officer. The Assistant Executive Director/Program Officer is responsible for developing and implementing a variety of humanities programs and events and coordinating the Council's Community Grants program under the supervision of the Council's executive director and board of directors. A detailed description of the Assistant Executive Director/Program Officer's duties may be obtained from the Council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai or from the Council's website at www.nmihumanities.org.

Applicants for this position must possess: (1). strong analytic, writing and communication skills; (2). knowledge of grants writing and grants administration; (3). the ability to work effectively with people from diverse backgrounds; (4). a working knowledge of NMI history and of current political, social and economic issues confronting the local community; (5). basic computer skills including knowledge of MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint; and (6). the ability to articulate the Council's mission to a wide range of audiences.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.) in a humanities discipline from an accredited postsecondary institution. The salary range is from $35,000 to $40,000 depending on qualifications and experience. Benefits are set forth in the NMICH Personnel Policy Manual.

Interested individuals are invited to send a letter of interest, a detailed résumé and the names and addresses of three references to Scott Russell, Executive Director, Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities, Box 506407, Saipan, MP 96950. Applications must be received by Council staff on or before 4:00 p.m. on Friday, 22 January 2010. Those wishing more information about this position may contact Council staff at 235-4785.

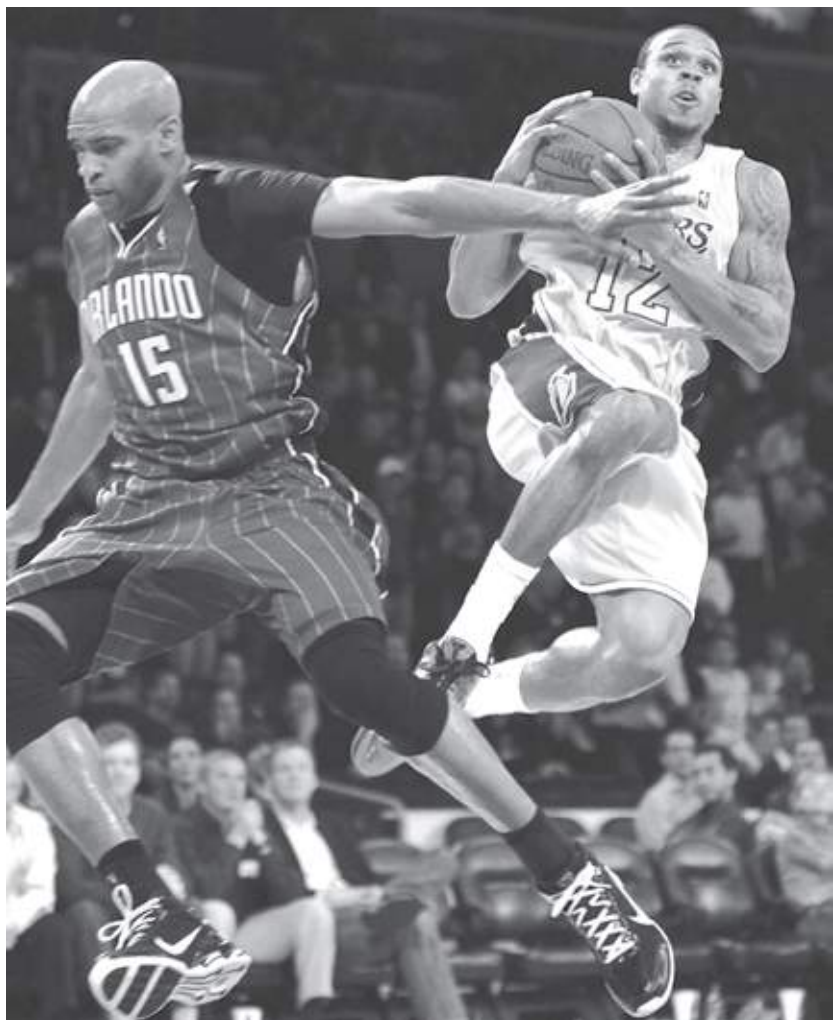
The Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities is an equal opportunity employer.

Lakers rally in 4th for 98-92 win over Magic

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Shannon Brown scored a career-high 22 points, and Pau Gasol had 17 points and 10 rebounds as the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Orlando Magic 98-92 Monday in the first rematch of last season's NBA finals.

Kobe Bryant scored just 11 points on 4-of-19 shooting, but his teammates carried the Lakers to their 18th win in 19 home games in a remarkable fourth-quarter rally led almost entirely by reserves.

Dwight Howard had 24 points and 12 rebounds for the Magic, who wrapped up a four-game road trip with their seventh loss in nine games.



AP

Los Angeles Lakers' Shannon Brown, right, goes to the hoop as Orlando Magic's Vince Carter, left, defends during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Los Angeles on Monday, Jan. 18, 2010.

Mavericks 99, Celtics 90

At Boston, Dirk Nowitzki had 37 points, scoring nine in a row during a third-quarter run as Dallas beat Boston.

Jason Kidd scored 13 points and added 17 assists for the Mavericks.

Paul Pierce scored 24 points, Ray Allen scored 21, Kendrick Perkins had 14 points and 12 rebounds and Rajon Rondo had 12 assists for Boston, which has lost three straight at home.

Wizards 97, Trail Blazers 92

At Washington, Antawn Jamison scored 21 of his 28 points after halftime and Caron Butler made two big baskets down the stretch as Washington put together a rare winning streak with a victory over Portland.

Randy Foye added 19 points and Butler had 18 for the Wizards, who made 25 of 28 free throws and shot 52 percent from the field.

Andre Miller scored 20 of his 22 points in the second half before fouling out with 19 seconds to play, LaMarcus Aldridge also scored 22 points and had a season-high 15 rebounds, and Martell Webster added 18 points for the Trail Blazers.

Knicks 99, Pistons 91

At New York, Nate Robinson showed his game is much more than dunks, scoring 27 points to lead New York to a victory and a split of a home-and-away series with Detroit.

Robinson made five 3-pointers, one during a 7-0 spurt that started the fourth quarter and gave the Knicks the lead for good.

Fellow reserve Al Harrington and Wilson Chandler each added 17 points as the Knicks bounced back from consecutive losses.

Rodney Stuckey scored 22 for the short-handed Pistons.

Thunder 94, Hawks 91

At Atlanta, Kevin Durant scored 29 points, and Jeff Green had 15 points and 11 rebounds as Oklahoma City ended Atlanta's three-game winning streak.

Durant made his first 14 free-throw attempts before his 15th bounced off the rim in the final seconds. Atlanta's Josh Smith called timeout in mid-air after grabbing the rebound.

Joe Johnson scored 23 points for the Hawks. Smith had 18 points and 12 assists for Atlanta, which had won five of six.

Bobcats 105, Kings 103

At Charlotte, North Carolina, Gerald Wallace shook off an ankle injury to score 28 points and Raymond Felton finished a rebound short of a triple-double as Charlotte held off a furious Sacramento comeback bid.

Charlotte led 82-58 with 4 minutes left in the third quarter before Tyreke Evans helped the Kings get within a point.

Rockets 101, Bucks 98, OT

At Houston, Luis Scola scored a season-high 27 points and grabbed 15 rebounds, and Aaron Brooks dished out 10 assists to offset a bad shooting game as Houston beat Milwaukee in overtime.

Carl Landry and Chase Budinger scored 12 points each for the Rockets.

Brandon Jennings scored 25 points and Andrew Bogut had 18 points and 17 rebounds for the Bucks.

Clippers 106, Nets 95

At Los Angeles, Chris Kaman had 22 points and seven rebounds in his return to the lineup as Los Angeles snapped a four-game skid.

Marcus Camby had 17 points and 14 rebounds, and Craig Smith added 18 points off the bench.

Point guard Baron Davis had nine points and nine assists before sitting out the fourth quarter.

Timberwolves 108, 76ers 103, OT

At Minneapolis, Jonny Flynn had a career-high 29 points and nine assists and Minnesota rallied from 20 points down to beat Philadelphia in overtime.

Al Jefferson added 23 points and 13 rebounds to help the Timberwolves complete their biggest comeback of the season against the stunned Sixers.

Andre Iguodala had 17 points, seven rebounds and five assists for the Sixers but missed a jumper at the buzzer that would have given Philadelphia the win in regulation.

Spurs 97, Hornets 90

At New Orleans, Tony Parker scored 25 points as San Antonio handed New Orleans a rare home loss.

Tim Duncan added 21 points and 14 rebounds, while George Hill scored 16 points and Manu Ginobili had 11 to help the Spurs snap a two-game losing streak.

David West scored 18 points for New Orleans, which lost for only the second time in its last 15 home games. Chris Paul had 18 points and nine assists for the Hornets, while Marcus Thornton scored 16 points.

Warriors 114, Bulls 97

At Oakland, California, Monta Ellis had 36 points, eight assists and five rebounds, and Corey Maggette added 32 points, six rebounds and five assists as short-handed Golden State snapped a three-game losing streak.

Stephen Curry had 26 points, 10 rebounds and six assists and Andris Biedrins grabbed a season-high 19 rebounds to go with a career-best eight blocked shots as Golden State ended Chicago's four-game winning streak.

Grizzlies 125, Suns 118

At Memphis, Tennessee, Rudy Gay scored 31 points and Zach Randolph added 27 points and 11 rebounds as Memphis finished a four-game home stretch undefeated.

O.J. Mayo added 28 points for Memphis, while Marc Gasol had 19 points.

Six Suns were in double figures led by Steve Nash with 22 points and 12 assists. Robin Lopez had a career-high 19 points on 8-of-10 shooting from the field, and Grant Hill scored 16. Leandro Barbosa finished with 14, and Amare Stoudemire added 12 points and nine rebounds. Louis Amundson had 10 points for the Suns, who dropped their fourth straight.

NBA BRIEFS

Marbury signs with pro team in China

BEIJING (AP)—Former NBA All-Star Stephon Marbury has reached an agreement to play for Chinese team Shanxi Zhongyu. Soon to become the Chinese league's best-known import, Marbury is expected to play his first game for the team on Jan. 27 against Qingdao, Shanxi announced on its Web site Monday. Shanxi boss Wang Xingjiang called the signing "a reward to our fans" to help a struggling team. "Marbury's salary is not an astronomical figure because by coming here he also hopes to open up the Chinese market and sell his shoes," Wang said, referring to the guard's line of Starbury basketball shoes and apparel. Based in the northern city of Taiyuan, 250 miles (400 kilometers) from the capital Beijing, Shanxi has won three of 13 games this season and is 12th in the 17-team league. The 32-year-old Marbury played 13 seasons in the NBA with Minnesota, New Jersey, Phoenix, New York and Boston. He averaged 19.3 points in his career. He played 23 games with the Celtics last season after a messy split from the Knicks.

NBA star Mutombo honored for deeds in native Congo

WASHINGTON (AP)—Former pro basketball star Dikembe Mutombo stressed the importance of an education as he was honored Monday with an award for improving lives in his native Congo. Mutombo said he sold fruit and vegetables for about $1 a day in order to pay his school fees in Congo. He briefly studied medicine at Georgetown University before his basketball talents were discovered. He graduated from the university with dual degrees in linguistics and diplomacy. His alma mater presented him with the Coach John Thompson Jr. Legacy of a Dream Award during an annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. "You never know what direction your life will take you or ... what road you will travel, but your chances of success are certainly greater with an education than without one," Mutombo said as he accepted the award. Mutombo's namesake foundation has worked to combat childhood diseases in Congo. It also opened a hospital in Kinshasa, which has served more than 25,000 patients.

Mourning-Wade fund raises over $800K for Haiti

MIAMI (AP)—With retired NBA star Alonzo Mourning calling the initial wave of support "overwhelming," the Haitian earthquake relief fund he cofounded with Heat star Dwyane Wade announced Monday that its pledge total has already surpassed $800,000.

Wade's donation was a one-game salary, about $175,000, while Mourning, LeBron James, Kevin Durant and Chris Paul each pledged $100,000, fund officials said. The "Athletes Relief Fund for Haiti" began soliciting from pro athletes Friday.

"I expected nothing less from my friends and colleagues in the sports community," Wade said in a release. "Our commitment to this cause knows no bounds, and we will continue to accept any and all donations throughout the days ahead."

Mourning spent about 36 hours in Haiti last week, traveling with Miami-based Project Medishare, which has worked to bring health care to the nation for about 15 years. The retired All-Star worked at a makeshift hospital and assisted rescue workers and first responders in the devastated capital of Port-au-Prince get badly needed supplies like water, food and medical equipment.

"It is the most devastating, deplorable images I've ever seen in my life," Mourning said Monday in Memphis, Tenn. "(An) inhumane atmosphere to where we can only pray and do the best we can to assist those individuals."

Mourning was in Memphis to receive the National Civil Rights Museum Sports Legacy Award for contributions to civil and human rights before the Grizzlies played the Phoenix Suns

Mourning plans to return to Haiti on Tuesday. The Heat have also continued efforts to raise money and collect donations for the region.

"The response from our colleagues has been overwhelming," Mourning said. "We accept these donations with complete confidence that Project Medishare will put each dollar to quick and efficient use."

Project Medishare was started in the mid-1990s by prominent Miami doctors Barth Green and Arthur Fournier, both of whom have ties to Mourning. They helped arrange for him to go to Haiti last week, and the idea for the fund was quickly born.

Among the other NBA players announced as donors: Gilbert Arenas, Al Horford, Anthony Parker, Kenyon Martin, J.R. Smith, Carmelo Anthony, Ben Gordon, Mike Dunleavy, Michael Beasley, Udonis Haslem, Quentin Richardson, Devin Harris, Michael Finley, Chris Bosh, Carlos Boozer, Ronnie Brewer and Caron Butler.

Many of the NBA donors so far have with played with or are close friends with Wade, who said last week he was trying to get word to every player in the league about the cause. Several other players, including Philadelphia's Samuel Dalembert, are organizing fundraising efforts of their own, and NBA itself has pledged money for Haitian relief.

"Since first learning of the tragedy in Haiti, I was intent on finding a way to help," James said. "I feel fortunate to be in such a position to provide support and my heart and prayers continue to be with the people of Haiti."

NFL players Michael Vick, Terrell Owens, Josh Cribbs, Wes Welker, Randy Moss and Clinton Portis also gave money, fund officials said. Welker, Cribbs and suspended NFL player Donte Stallworth all had Twitter play a role in their donation amounts, with Stallworth saying on his feed that he would give $1 for each person who was following him, or about $34,000.

"Follow & let's help the people of Haiti together today!" Stallworth wrote.

Serena Williams, Federer into 2nd round

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Top-ranked Roger Federer had some anxious moments in his first-round match at the Australian Open before fending off Russia's Igor Andreev 4-6, 6-2, 7-6 (2), 6-0.

Federer lost the first set Tuesday after having his service broken in the ninth game, then had to save three set points against Andreev's serve in the 12th game of the third set before winning it in a tiebreaker.

He dominated the fourth, ensuring there was no similar end to his previous match at Rod Laver Arena—he finished in tears last year after losing the final to Rafael Nadal.

"I hoped I was going to hang in there, that he was going to get tired. It was a tough first round. I'm really, really relieved," Federer said. "I think I definitely got lucky to get out of that one. It was a fortunate third set today."

Federer hasn't lost the opening round since the 2003 French Open, the event before he won Wimbledon for the first of his 15 Grand Slam titles.

"I prefer easier matches, but this worked as well."

About the same time Federer dropped the first set, Serena Williams was in a news conference discussing how proud she was of extending her record of never losing the first round of a major.

She was more subdued in her first Grand Slam match since her outburst at the U.S. Open, starting the defense of her Australian Open title with a 6-2, 6-1 win over 18-year-old Polish player Urszula Radwanska.

The victory was more like her previous match at Melbourne Park—a 6-0, 6-3 win over now No. 2-ranked Dinara Safina in last year's final—than her last in a major: her loss to Kim Clijsters in the semifinals at Flushing Meadows.

Her tirade against a line judge who called her for a foot fault cost Williams that match, a record fine of $82,500 and a suspended ban which means she'll miss a U.S. Open if she has another such outburst at any Grand Slam event in the next two years.

AP

Serena Williams of the United States returns the ball to Poland's Urszula Radwanska during their Women's first round singles match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010.

Williams has written about the fine being unfair, saying it wouldn't have been applied to a man in the same situation. But she has accepted it, set up a charity to raise an amount equal to the fines she received, and moved on.

"I always said what I did wasn't right, but I turned that around and I'm actually raising $92,000 to educate ladies, women, also for my school in Africa ... also I'm giving some money to Haiti," she said. "I don't know whoever got fined like that. People said worse, done worse. I just thought it was a bit much."

As for the suspended ban?

"No, that hasn't crossed my mind at all as if I yell too much, it would be a problem," she said. "I feel like I can always be myself.

"You know, I just do the best that I can. I'll say, 'C'mon.' I'll get frustrated. I'll still be human. I'll still make mistakes. I'll still learn from them."

The 28-year-old American hurt her left knee at the Sydney International last Friday night and later said she has been bothered by a foot problem.

Williams played with her right thigh heavily wrapped with a white bandage Tuesday, but said it was more for a precaution against injury than anything else. It didn't seem to restrict her movement.

Williams broke Radwanska in the opening game to set the tone. Even serving for the set at 5-1 and 40-0, she huffed when her forehand landed too long. Next point, she clinched the set with an ace.

Radwanska saved three match points before dumping a backhand into the net.

Williams had the vocal backing of the crowd in Melbourne, where she has won the title every odd-numbered year since 2003.

Her sister, Venus Williams, was playing later Tuesday against Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic. In what the WTA said was a record for the longest women's match at a major in the Open era, Barbora Zahlavova Strycova of the Czech Republic needed 4 hours, 19 minutes to beat Russia's Regina Kulikova 7-6 (5), 6-7 (10), 6-3.

On the men's side, sixth-seeded Nikolay Davydenko, No. 9 Fernando Verdasco—who lost an epic five-set semifinal to Nadal here last year—No. 10 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, No. 12 Gael Monfils, No. 19 Stanislas Wawrinka and No. 21 Tomas Berdych all advanced.

Americans James Blake and John Isner reached the second round, but No. 25 Sam Querrey lost to German veteran Rainer Schuettler.

Eighth-seeded Robin Soderling of Sweden, who ended Nadal's long streak at the French Open, was leading by two sets before losing in five to Marcel Granollers of Spain. No. 16 Tommy Robredo and No. 26 Jurgen Melzer also were ousted.

Blake had a 7-5, 7-5, 6-2 win over Frenchman Arnaud Clement, while Isner held off Andreas Seppi of Italy 6-3, 6-3, 3-6, 5-7, 6-4.

Fabrice Santoro extended his Grand Slam career into a fourth decade, but he lasted only one match - a 7-5, 7-5, 6-3 loss to 14th-seeded Marin Cilic of Croatia.

The 37-year-old Frenchman, who started his Grand Slam career at the 1989 French Open, retired last season but returned to Melbourne Park for a record 70th major.

Ana Ivanovic, who reached the Australian Open final and won the French Open in 2008, opened with a 6-2, 6-3 win over American Shenay Perry in the first match to finish Tuesday, when the rain that allowed only 26 of the scheduled 64 matches to be completed on the opening day gave way to sunny conditions.

Jerry Hairston joins Pads; will play with brother

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The San Diego Padres have acquired two Hairston brothers in three days.

Jerry Hairston Jr., a utilityman who was with the New York Yankees when they won the World Series, agreed Monday to a $2,125,000, one-year deal.

The move likely was hastened after the Padres completed a trade with Oakland on Saturday to reacquire Hairston's younger brother, Scott. They are the sons of former big leaguer Jerry Hairston.

Jerry Hairston Jr. said he had been looking at a handful of teams.

"I thought San Diego would be a great fit, then boom, Scott gets traded over there, and it's icing on the cake," he said in a phone interview.

Because Jerry is four years older than Scott, the two never played together in Little League or high school. They did play together for Mexico in last spring's World Baseball Classic.

"It's amazing," Jerry said. "Before he got traded I asked him about San Diego, and he said it was an unbelievable place to play, with great fans and a great organization. I had no idea he would get traded back here. He was trying to sell me on San Diego, and he did a great job of it. Then it just so happens he got traded."

The Hairstons would become the seventh set of brothers to play for the Padres, the fifth as teammates. All-Star first baseman Adrian Gonzalez and his older brother, Edgar, played for San Diego the past two seasons. Edgar Gonzalez signed with the Yomiuri Giants of Japan's Central League this month.

General manager Jed Hoyer said the Padres had been talking with Jerry Hairston for more than a month, and acquiring Scott "may have sped things along at the very end. It's a coincidence that we ended up with both of them, although Scott may have played a role in pushing Jerry over the edge in signing here."

Hoyer said Jerry Hairston will give the Padres a much more versatile bench, with his ability to play third base, shortstop, second base and all three outfield positions.

"He plays all those positions well," Hoyer said. "He brings a lot of energy and a lot of versatility. We're excited to have him."

Jerry Hairston split the 2009 season between Cincinnati and the Yankees, combining to hit .251 with 10 home runs and 39 RBIs.

He singled and scored the winning run in the 13th inning of Game 2 of the AL championship series against the Los Angeles Angels.

Jerry Hairston came up as a shortstop but can play just about anywhere.

"There's always options with me," he said. "The biggest thing I've learned being in the big leagues for 12 years is a lot of things happen during the course of the year. It's a long season and I always prepare myself to play. If I'm in the lineup, I'm prepared. If I'm not, I'm prepared. That's why I've had success. The good thing about it, I can start at second one night and in center another night. Wherever, the bottom line is just help your team win."

He is a lifetime .259 hitter, with 49 homers and 291 RBIs.

Scott Hairston is expected to platoon in center and right field.

Bolts extend Turner's contract day after big loss

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Like it or not, Chargers fans, coach Norv Turner will be sticking around for four more years.

The Chargers announced Monday night that the oft-maligned coach is getting a three-year contract extension through 2013.

The extension came just more than 24 hours after the Chargers were shocked 17-14 by the New York Jets in the divisional playoffs, renewing calls by some fans for Turner to be fired.

The team had been expected to extend Turner's contract in the offseason so he wouldn't be a lame duck next fall. That offseason came a lot sooner than most people expected. Some had picked the Chargers to win the Super Bowl, but they melted down in a hail of mistakes and penalties against the Jets.

Team president Dean Spanos told The Associated Press on Monday night that he spoke with Turner for about 45 minutes earlier in the day and got a deal done.

"I think he's done an outstanding job and I look forward to the next four years," Spanos said.

Neither Turner nor general manager A.J. Smith returned calls seeking comment. The team did not plan a news conference, spokesman Bill Johnston said.

Turner seemed to be on his way to erasing the stigma of never being able to get to the big game as a head coach. Although he won two Super Bowl rings as Dallas' offensive coordinator in the early 1990s, his first two head coaching stints, with Washington and Oakland, were forgettable.

Most fans groaned when he was hired to replace the fired Marty Schottenheimer after the 2006 season. He joined the Chargers with a 58-82-1 record overall as an NFL head coach. While Schottenheimer couldn't win in the postseason, Turner couldn't get to the postseason.

That changed in San Diego, although he still hasn't been able to get the talent-laden Bolts to the Super Bowl.

The Chargers have won three straight AFC West titles under Turner, although they are only 3-3 in the playoffs. They reached the AFC title game in his first season before losing at New England. The Bolts have been eliminated in the divisional round the last two seasons.

Turner's regular-season record with San Diego is 32-16, but his overall record is still sub-.500, at 90-98-1.

Turner was credited as being the steadying force as the Chargers rallied from a 2-3 start to win their final 11 games to clinch the AFC's No. 2 playoff seed and a first-round bye.

But anti-Turner sentiment reemerged after Sunday's shocking loss, in which the Chargers looked tight, played conservatively and at times lost their composure. The Chargers were booed at one point, and some fans began calling for Turner to be replaced.

The Chargers have had slow starts in Turner's three seasons, only to end each season with a winning streak.

Little League umpire clinic today

In preparation for the 2010 season of the Saipan Little League Baseball, SLLB will be holding a series of clinics for umpires starting today at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The clinic will start at 5:30pm and will focus on teaching umpires/volunteers the basics of a two-man and three-man officiating.

"Additionally, prospective umpires will go through a question and answer session to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the rules. Understanding the rules and how to interpret such rules is as important as executing a squeeze bunt, or even a hit-and-run play," SLLB president Tony Rogolifoi said in a media release.

Rogolifoi added the free clinic is also open to managers, coaches, volunteers, or even Big League players.

"The Saipan Little League believes that good umpiring deserves respect from managers, coaches, players and even spectators. Being versed on the rules and knowing the mechanics of umpiring will earn you that respect. We are encouraging you to reserve at least one or two hours of your time to attend this clinic," Rogolifoi added.

Jan. 22 deadline

Teams participating in the SLLB, which will kick off its 2010 season on Feb. 21, are mandated to turn over required documents on or before Jan. 22.

Managers/coaches need to submit the following: players' filled-out registration form, medical release form, a copy of accident insurance policy/card, berth certificate, and volunteers' forms.

Rogolifoi said submission of these documents on time will give the board of directors enough time to prepare the game schedule ahead of the opening date next month. It will also allow league officials to check carefully if each player meets age and residency requirements.

"For safety and emergency purposes, parents are advised to indicate on the medical release form if the child has some kind of allergy or medical problems, including those requiring maintenance medication. This information is necessary to ensure that medical personnel have details of any medical problem which may interfere with or alter treatment," Rogolifoi said.

Game schedules for the Majors, Juniors, Seniors, and Big League will be distributed to teams starting Feb. 1.

For more information, contact Rogolifoi at 288-3515, vice president Ben Jones at 285-1952, or treasurer Walter Macaranas at 483-9258. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

SLLB president Tony Rogolifoi umpires in a Majors division game last season at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. SLLB will host an umpires clinic today.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

SBA

From Page 28

only cash prizes. 2008 champion Raymond Angeles took the fourth place prize of $125, while Russelle Zapanta and Robert Talavera pocketed $100 and $75, respectively. Top 10 finishers Raymond Zapanta, Simon Manacop, Raul Dumapit, and Nick Gutierrez went home with lunch certificates from Fiesta and AOI Restaurant.

In the Queen of the Lanes finale, Ron Cal claimed the top purse of $320 and a trophy. Runners-up Diana Chong and Carol McKenzie also took home trophies and $175 and $150, respectively. Fourth placer Gigi Zapanta settled for $100, while Yho Villavicencio and Diane Camacho tied for fifth and split the $90 purse. Elena Soll, Lyn Santos, and Carrie Camacho received dinner/lunch buffer certificates from AOI.

Cash prizes and gift baskets from Cosmos were awarded to the Top 3 finisher in the Fiji Water Prince/Princess of the Lanes final roll-off. Champion Raphael Zapanta won $225, runner-up Leeanne Yarobwemal pocketed $110, and M.J. Aldan gained $80. Consolation prizes were given to Marion McKenzie, Nikko Gutierrez, and Troy Verdaguer.

A special award was given to long-time SBA member and participant Ben Aizon, who despite his handicap (he has only one arm) continued to join the association's various tournaments. Aizon qualified in the King of the Lanes finale and tallied 1,196 pinfalls in nine games, posting his best performance in Game 2 after knocking down 200 pins.

Two more special citations were given during the awards ceremony with Raymond Zapanta recognized for topping the 2009 rankings in the men's division and Cal and Emi Williams for tying in the No. 1 spot in the women's category. Raymond Zapanta earned 1,578 ranking points, while Cal and Williams had 669 apiece.

TEAM

From Page 28

made it to the eight-team playoffs in the Majors division. Survivors survived the first round, but lost in the second.

This year, the Survivors through McDonald's will be back to battle 14 other teams in the Majors division and hope to improve their performance from last season.

"Having a team in the Majors league for the past nine years would not be possible without the kind donation of McDonald's Saipan. We thank Mr. Joe Ayuyu for his and his company's continued support to Little League," Tenorio added.

Tenorio was at McDonald's main office in Middle Road yesterday to personally receive a check worth $500 from Ayuyu. The check is only part of McDonald's donation package for Tenorio's Majors team. The package also includes payment for uniforms, which cost around $900.

"At this trying times, we, parents and volunteers, can't thanked McDonald's enough for their assistance. Sponsors usually stay for a year or the most two years. However, McDonald's has been with us for the past nine years," Tenorio said.

Ayuyu assured Tenorio that the company will continue to support a Major team in the SLLB.

"The donation is not about money. It's about helping bring kids to the baseball field, involving them in worthwhile activities, and teaching them to work as a team," Ayuyu said.

"As long as we see kids interested in playing baseball and parents/volunteers willing to support and help them, we will be here to stay and assist teams in whatever possible way" the McDonald's Saipan owner.

Tenorio recalled the first time he and McDonald's forged a partnership, nine years ago.

"He (Ayuyu) came to us, not the other way around and it's very noble act from him. He said he wanted to sponsor a team, so I was the first one to step up and make a request to have McDonald's support my Majors team," Tenorio said.

NMIVA

From Page 28

FIVB's Volleyball Official Hand Signals Chart, and a free entry into FIVB's VCP Referee Course (date to be announced later).

The NMIVA board extends a big thank you to everyone who made this event possible and offers its congratulations to all the participants. For more information, visit www.nmivolleyball.org or email nmivolleyball@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

PROSPECTS

From Page 28

selves to keep warm. The usually packed Garapan court was half full, as some fans thought the game was cancelled. The faithful ones who stayed watched the match while holding umbrellas.

Johnson started the second quarter with two quick baskets and fired another triple, as Prospects tried to pull away. With less than three minutes left in the second period and Prospects ahead, 43-35, rain threatened the match anew.

Sprinkles and strong winds started making the court wet and slippery and on several occasions players from both camps stumbled and fell to the floor. In the last 1:06 of the first half with Prospects still in front, 45-36, committee members temporarily stopped the match, as the rain started to get stronger.

Then just when Prospects and Advance were ready to call it a night, the rain stopped. The match resumed with Johnson canning a long triple and X-Terminators also scoring three points to end the first half with Prospect ahead, 48-39.

Prospects and Advance players stayed, eager to complete the match, but with less than four minutes left before the second half began, heavy rains fell, finally ending the teams' hopes to conclude the game.

UBA president James Lee rescheduled the resumption of the match tonight, while the continuation of the playoff game between Noni Saipan and Diamond was set last night. Noni was leading Diamond, 30-23, with less than seven minutes remaining in the second quarter.

If the Noni Saipan-Diamond tiff is completed, the winner of that game will face Ol'Aces in the first game in the semifinals tonight. Advance and Prospects will play in the second game.

The championship round, which is a best-of-three series, is scheduled to start Jan. 20, but is likely to be moved next week due to several cancellation/halting of games the past two weeks.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	27	12	.692	—
Toronto	21	20	.512	7
New York	17	24	.415	11
Philadelphia	13	27	.325	14 1/2
New Jersey	3	37	.075	24 1/2

Southeast Division

Atlanta	26	14	.650	—
Orlando	26	15	.634	1/2
Charlotte	20	19	.513	5 1/2
Miami	20	19	.513	5 1/2
Washington	14	26	.350	12

Central Division

Cleveland	31	11	.738	—
Chicago	18	21	.462	11 1/2
Milwaukee	16	23	.410	13 1/2
Detroit	14	26	.350	16
Indiana	14	26	.350	16

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Dallas	27	14	.659	—
San Antonio	25	15	.625	1 1/2
Houston	23	18	.561	4
Memphis	22	18	.550	4 1/2
New Orleans	21	19	.525	5 1/2

Northwest Division

Denver	26	14	.650	—
Portland	25	17	.595	2
Oklahoma City	23	18	.561	3 1/2
Utah	23	18	.561	3 1/2
Minnesota	9	33	.214	18

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	32	9	.780	—
Phoenix	24	18	.571	8 1/2
L.A. Clippers	18	22	.450	13 1/2
Sacramento	15	25	.375	16 1/2
Golden State	12	27	.308	19

Yesterday's Games

Washington 97, Portland 92
New York 99, Detroit 91
Oklahoma City 94, Atlanta 91
Charlotte 105, Sacramento 103
Houston 101, Milwaukee 98, OT
L.A. Clippers 106, New Jersey 95
Minnesota 108, Philadelphia 103, OT
San Antonio 97, New Orleans 90
Golden State 114, Chicago 97
Memphis 125, Phoenix 118
Dallas 99, Boston 90
L.A. Lakers 98, Orlando 92

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Anthony, DEN	35	361	295	1049	30.0
James, CLE	42	431	307	1243	29.6
Durant, OKC	40	391	325	1165	29.1
Bryant, LAL	40	427	247	1150	28.8
Wade, MIA	39	370	281	1055	27.1
Ellis, GOL	38	393	181	992	26.1
Nowitzki, DAL	39	352	250	981	25.2
Bosh, TOR	41	337	297	977	23.8
Roy, POR	39	324	212	914	23.4
Arenas, WAS	32	253	153	722	22.6
Jamison, WAS	30	251	125	676	22.5
Johnson, ATL	39	323	112	828	21.2
Stoudemire, PHX	41	327	208	862	21.0
Randolph, MEM	39	318	159	799	20.5
Evans, SAC	35	263	170	715	20.4
Kaman, LAC	35	299	116	714	20.4
Gay, MEM	37	281	152	743	20.1
Jackson, CHA	38	277	153	763	20.1
Duncan, SAN	36	292	134	718	19.9
Maggette, GOL	37	231	259	728	19.7

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Perkins, BOS	186	292	.637
Gasol, MEM	218	355	.614
Howard, ORL	218	363	.601
Horford, ATL	223	381	.585
Hilario, DEN	216	372	.581
Lee, NYK	322	574	.561
Landry, HOU	236	422	.559
Stoudemire, PHX	327	585	.559
Bynum, LAL	242	434	.558
Duncan, SAN	292	527	.554

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, ORL	40	147	377	524	13.1
Noah, CHI	38	149	316	465	12.2
Camby, LAC	38	116	324	440	11.6
Randolph, MEM	39	176	272	448	11.5
Wallace, CHA	37	80	344	424	11.5
Lee, NYK	40	95	351	446	11.2
Bosh, TOR	41	124	333	457	11.1
Haywood, WAS	38	163	246	409	10.8
Boozer, UTA	41	80	355	435	10.6
Duncan, SAN	36	103	269	372	10.3

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Paul, NOR	31	350	11.3
Nash, PHX	41	453	11.0
Rondo, BOS	37	357	9.6
Williams, UTA	37	355	9.6
Kidd, DAL	40	356	8.9
B. Davis, LAC	39	316	8.1
James, CLE	42	323	7.7
Westbrook, OKC	40	297	7.4
Arenas, WAS	32	230	7.2
Wade, MIA	39	244	6.3

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2009 UBA/Miller League Regular Season

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ol'Aces' Romeo Iginoef challenges the defense of two Advance players during their game in the regular season of the 2009 UBA/Miller Lite Men's Basketball League at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Advanceís Jorge De Guzman is trapped by two Ol'Aces defenders.

Noni Saipan's Wowie Abuel goes for a layup against a Cholos player.

Noni Saipan's Banjo Basila makes a layup against Advance's Freddie Pelisamen.

Cholos' Pete Lizama, left, stretches for the rebound against Noni Saipan's Jun Pantaleon.

Prospects' Quincy Johnson commits himself in midair against two Diamond defenders.

Prospects' Bonbon Cadagat, right, fakes off the defense of Ol'Aces' Jose Tumaquip.

Hoopaholics' Walter Mendez, right, dribbles away from the defense of Ol'Aces' Leroy Rangamar.

Hoopaholics' Dave Sablan, right, draws the defense of Ol'Aces' Tyrone Omar.

Cholos' Bob Coldeen, right, battles Noni Saipan's Kae Bernardo for the rebound.

Little League umpire clinic today

In preparation for the 2010 season of the Saipan Little League Baseball, SLLB will be holding a series of clinics for umpires starting today at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. **26**

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Lakers rally in 4th for 98-92 win over Magic

Shannon Brown scored a career-high 22 points, and Pau Gasol had 17 points and 10 rebounds as the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Orlando Magic 98-92 Monday in the first rematch of last season's NBA finals. **24**

SBA fetes top bowlers for 2009

Cal

Zapanta

Omechelang

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Cash prizes, trophies, and gift certificates were flowing Monday night during the Saipan Bowling Association Annual Awards Banquet for the 2009 season at the Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe.

These prizes were given to winners in the 12 monthly tournaments, the year-end roll-offs, bowlers ranking system, and other special awardees.

Percy Omechelang went home with the biggest cash prize ($800), following his victory in the season-ending Budweiser King of the Lanes tournament on Sunday at the Capital Bowling Center. Omechelang also received a championship trophy from SBA president Jerry Tan and the latter later added an overnight stay certificate (with breakfast) from Fiesta Resort & Spa to his purse after having the most rounds played in 2009. Percy and his wife, Gloria, competed in 23 of the 24 events in the 12-month period.

Omechelang gained his first King of the Lanes title in six years after edging Alex Castro in the finals, 384-361. Castro settled for the runner-up trophy and $350 cash. Third placer Richard Leong also went home with a trophy and $200, while the next three placers received

See SBA on Page 26

Prospects leads Advance in rained-out semis

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

UBA Advance and Prospects persisted on playing their semifinals game despite the bad weather, but Mother Nature was more stubborn than them, halting Monday's playoff round in the 2009 UBA/Miller Lite Men's Basketball League.

The Garapan Basketball Court was still slippery and a bit moist from the morning rain when Advance and Prospects reported for the game around 7pm. League volunteers and even players from both camps teamed up in drying the court and after more than 30 minutes, Prospects and Advance were ready to go.

Prospects opened the game with back-to-back triples, one each from Quincy Johnson and Bonbon Cadagat. Cadagat went on to score six more points, while Johnson added two more field goals, lifting Prospects to a 22-19 lead after 10 minutes of play.

In the duration of the first quarter, there were rain sprinkles several times and cold winds blew, making it hard for players on the court to sweat, while those on the bench were hugging them-

See PROSPECTS on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Advance X-Terminators' Jun Estolas, right, goes up for a layup against Prospects' Chris Paul during their rained-out semis duel in the UBA caging on Monday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Team McDonald's all set for Little League's new season

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It's all systems go for Team McDonald's as far as its participation to the 2010 season of the Saipan Little League Baseball is concerned.

"We're all set. We have at least six players from last year's roster returning this season and we got a couple of strong recruits. We've been practicing for more than two months and I am hoping we will have a stronger finish this year," McDonald's team manager Patrick Tenorio Sr. said.

Tenorio's Survivors, who were also supported by McDonald's last season,

See TEAM on Page 26

RELATED NEWS

■ Little League umpire clinic today. **Page 26**

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
McDonald's Saipan owner Jerry Ayuyu shakes hands with Patrick Tenorio Sr. after handing a check for the latter's Majors team in the Saipan Little League Baseball during a turnover ceremony yesterday at McDonald's main office in Middle Road.

17 complete NMIVA referee clinic

The Northern Marianas Volleyball Association held a referee clinic on Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Eighteen individuals, mostly high school students and a few veteran volleyball players, joined the clinic that run from 9am to 5pm. Seventeen finished the one-day free clinic, earning a certificate of completion and a brand new referee's whistle.

"We were very pleased with the turn out. It was a very interactive group and it was clear that everyone learned something that they didn't know before," NMIVA president Laurie Peterka said.

As part of its commitment to redirecting its efforts, NMIVA worked with coach Nick Gross (MHS) and James Feger (Safe Haven program) to organize this one-day free clinic with the intent of producing a pool of referees to help with improving the quality of volleyball in the CNMI.

"You know, I've been playing this game my whole life. These new FIVB rules for 2009-2012 really make a big difference in how to ref the games. This was new even for me. I am so glad that we have this clinic so that we can start teaching our young players the new rules," said Mili Saiki, veteran player and NMIVA secretary.

Participants learned new rules and other basics about refereeing volleyball games through lecture and video clips. They also spent time at the volleyball court, learning, sharing and practicing various refereeing skills with each other.

At the end of the eight-hour course, each participant also received FIVB's 2009 Refereeing Guidelines and Instructions, FIVB's Rules of the Game, Official Volleyball Rules 2009-2012,

See NMIVA on Page 26

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Seventeen individuals test the whistle they received after completing a one-day referee clinic on Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.